# JOHN BULL

Vol. XL No. 282 | SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1911. | ONE PENNY

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

For meaning of this No. see Page iii. of cover.

*The world is a bundle of hay;*
*Mankind are the asses who pull;*
*Each tugs it a different way,*
*And the greatest of all is John Bull*

—BYRON.

**Edited by**
**HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.**

## THIS POSTER

MRS. BULL
A JOURNAL FOR JOHN BULL

**THE JUDGE**
**THE WOMAN**
**AND**
**THE CHILD**

Announces an item of unusual interest in this week's "Mrs. Bull." Other articles include "The Girl Behind the Bar," "The Milk Swindle," "The Baby Problem," and "The Smallest Garden in the World," by Keble Howard. There are a host of other LIVE features of interest to everyone and of real help to the Housewife, forming

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# JOHN BULL.

*Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:*
*Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.*

Vol. XI. No. 282. Saturday, October 28th, 1911. One Penny.


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*All editorial inquiries* MUST BE MADE BY LETTER.

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## THE JOHN BULL LEAGUE.

### WINTER CAMPAIGN.

**THE PRESIDENT,**
**HORATIO BOTTOMLEY, ESQ., M.P.,**
*Is about to address a series of Meetings in the principal Cities and Towns of*
**ENGLAND, SCOTLAND,**
**IRELAND, and WALES.**

*Full particulars will be announced in this column in due course.*

## GLASGOW AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

### A GRAND CONCERT

will be held in the

**BERKELEY HALL, BERKELEY STREET, GLASGOW,**
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11th, at 7.30 p.m.**

St. Munro Quartette Party: Miss Ellen Laidlow (Soprano); Miss Margie Robertson (Contralto); Mr. P. S. Richardson (Tenor); Mr. P. A. Hope (Baritone); Mr. Will Lindsay (Card Manipulator); and others.

DOORS OPEN 7 P.M.

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### FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

**UNION RESTAURANT HALL, WEST NILE STREET,**
**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27th, at 7.30 p.m.**

## THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

*[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]*

AT IT AGAIN!

By the time these lines are read, the great Talking Shop will have re-opened for the winter season—to the delight of the heart of the Party hack.

A PUBLIC SHOCK.

We venture to predict that the perusal of the article on "The Public Prosecutor and Mr. Bottomley" will come as a shock to the public mind.

THE COMING STRIKE.

As we surmised, the Report of the Railway Commission has been received with derision by the men. It will not stop the strike. Nationalisation is the only remedy. Better than any Insurance Scheme.

BELATED THANKS.

Mr. C. F. G. Masterman, having managed to smuggle himself into Bethnal Green about four months ago, has just issued a letter of thanks to the electors for the honour they have done him. The Whitewasher is waking up!

REALLY!

The members of the Halsbury Club desire to emphatically contradict the report that they are in any way hostile to the leadership of Mr. Balfour. We think they do protest too much.

OVER CONFIDENCE.

Mr. McKenna is about to build a new house for himself at Smith Square, Westminster. The London County Council have granted him a lease of ninety-nine years. Surely he does not expect to remain in office so long as that?

"TIME, GENTLEMEN, PLEASE!"

When will restaurant keepers learn to appreciate the fact that, so long as they do not sell alcoholic liquors after the prescribed hours, there is nothing in law to prevent their keeping their premises open for any reasonable time—or all night if they like—to enable their customers to finish their suppers in peace? We are sure that, unless this right were pushed to extremes, the justices would not penalise licence holders for not choking their customers—especially on Saturday nights, when you have scarcely taken your seat after the theatre before the potman's refrain of, "Time, Gentlemen, please!" is dinned into your ears!

TO CAPTIOUS CRITICS.

Our cartoonist hopes that he will not be deluged with letters from readers pointing out that there is "something wrong" with the Parliamentary machine depicted this week. He is well aware of this, as JOHN BULL has been commenting on it for years.

### Entertainments and the Public.

It is evident from the correspondence which has reached us that, apart from the question of dangerous overcrowding, many amusement-hall proprietors practise upon the public what is neither more nor less than an imposition. Here, for instance, is the experience of a patron of a suburban Hippodrome. "The performance is advertised to start at 6.5 on Saturday evenings, and, accompanied by a friend, I formed up in the *queue*, being about the twentieth pair from the entrance to the fauteuils (1s.) and stalls (9d.). There was a constant stream of people coming from the booking office and entering the hall. The ordinary doors were not opened until 6.25, or twenty minutes after the performance should have commenced. When we got to the ticket office we were informed that there were no 9d. seats left, so I paid 2s. for the two seats. When we got inside we were ushered into the 9d. seats, all the fauteuils being filled. The fourth turn was on the stage. There was not a stall seat sold for 9d., although the seats are advertised at that price." This sort of thing is not at all uncommon, and perhaps if one or two of the managers concerned were shown up in the law courts they would be a little less eager to trick the public in this way.

### "Sir" to You.

Not a few gentlemen at present glorified by the title of Baronet will be perturbed by the forthcoming issue of the official roll of the baronetage, compiled under Royal Warrant. In a sentence, they will search for their names and will not find them, neither will they be "sirred" nor their wives "ladied" any more. The truth is, and it has been known for years, the present baronetage of Britain is plentifully bogus, and the official roll will weed out the pretenders. Never were such social bubbles for the pricking.

### What Parson is This?

Recently Thomas Walters, of 3, Smithfield Road, Aberystwyth, a railway porter, found a satchel containing, among other things, £4 10s. in money. It was subsequently claimed by a clergyman, name not known to us, and restored to him, the porter's reward being "Thank you." We have not mentioned this matter before, being in the hope that, having found his satchel and his treasure on earth, our rev. friend would presently find his memory. Unfortunately our hope is dead, and we are therefore compelled to draw his attention to the etiquette of the occasion in this public way, reminding him that the Lord loveth a cheerful giver.

### Asking for a Typhoid Epidemic.

Evidently the Rochford District Council not only are asking for a typhoid epidemic, but won't be happy till they get it. Every year thousands of people visit the little holiday resort, Canvey Island, down the river, near Southend. There are hundreds of bungalows on the island, but no water supply, and the District Council won't provide one. The people have to walk three miles to a pump, and water has been so scarce this summer that they dare not even wash in rain water, and have been using sea water for the purpose. A case of typhoid has just been removed from the island, and it may not be the last. Have the Local Government Board no powers in such a case, or is it that before they can be enforced an epidemic must break out?

### Forging Ahead.

Bournemouth is forging ahead. A reader sends us a page of the local *Daily Echo* dated 1991. Notwithstanding this great advance in the times, it has been noticed by observers that Bournemouth is strictly prohibited by the Town Council from having a tram ride on Sundays.

### Hoist with Their Own Petard.

If the kill-joys of Llanelly have any sense of humour, they will appreciate the very practical joke of which they have become the victims. Our readers will recall that the Llanelly Free Church Council recently opposed the granting of licences to the local picture shows for Sunday performances. Notwithstanding this, the Free Church Council applied the other day for permission to hold Sunday evening concerts in one of the theatres, but were met with a flat refusal by the Licensing Committee. Sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander. There is as little harm in a Sunday picture show run by laymen as in a Sunday concert run by parsons; and, in our opinion at any rate, just as much good. The Sabbatarian cranks of Llanelly have been deservedly hoist with their own petard.

### "Canadian Loyalty."

Writing from the Imperial Club, Vancouver, British Columbia, a reader tells us of an incident which occurred in that city on Election Day, when it "went solid" against Reciprocity. After the result was announced, an American tore down a Union Jack decorating a motor car at the street corner. "The crowd was in good humour, took the offender in hand, and after forcing him to replace the flag on the motor car commanded him to sing 'God Save the King'; which he wisely did. An encore was then demanded and given; then, after rendering humble apology on his knees, the American was allowed to go his way unmolested." That is satisfactory, at any rate. Loyalty to the flag is one thing, however; love for the Englishman is another.

### Merthyr Socialists as Justices.

Judging by the highfaultin way in which he talks about truth and justice, one would imagine the Socialist would make an ideal J.P. in the places where he is found. Well, there are three of him at Merthyr, where Mr. Keir Hardie comes from, and the other day they sat on the bench with a Tory chairman. In one case before them three boys, first offenders, were charged with throwing stones at apple trees and stealing the apples when they fell. On their behalf the chairman described it as "one of the worst offences which had come before the court," and fined the lads £2 or a month in gaol. Mr. John Evans, Mr. T. Andrews, and Mr. John Davies are the three Socialist magistrates responsible for this extraordinary decision, which we commend to the earnest attention of their "comrades" of Merthyr.

### A Regrettable Episode.

What the *Gloucester Citizen* calls a "very regrettable episode" has occurred during a local fire. A Stroud brigade man accidentally splashed a Gloucester brigade man while plying his hose, whereupon the Gloucester man was roused to wrath and turned his hose on the Stroud man, washing him away and knocking down a policeman. "The Gloucester fireman," says our calm and cool contemporary, "was immediately brought down and received very severe reproof," but whether this will satisfy the policeman is a question. We need not remind him that it is a most heinous offence to knock down a member of the force while in the execution of his duty.

### Plantagenet Rockefeller.

According to Mr. Murray Poole, President of the American Archæological Society, Mr. John D. Rockefeller can trace his descent from George Plantagenet, Duke of Clarence. This makes J. D. a relation of ours. We also are descended from the Plantagenets; likewise probably most of our readers.

### The Chinese Pig.

If Mr. Alf Dixon, who writes to us from Tientsin, is to be credited, the British gentleman who was recently up at Hankow to inspect and report on the Chinese pig is all awry in his animal. He alleged that it was fed on rice, well cared for, and was fit for European food; in fact, Mr. John Burns is good enough to permit us to eat it. Mr. Dixon says rice is so dear that the pig-breeders cannot afford to eat it themselves, let alone feed pigs on it. "No, the Chinese pig feeds on dead dogs and all other beastly offal it can find. A Chinaman never feeds his pigs; they get their food as and where they can find it. Europeans in China never eat Chinese pork, and now the disgusting stuff is sent to England to be made into 'prime English bacon.' The feeding of pigs with rice was a performance got up for the edification of the gentleman from England." In other words, never was the gammon rasher.

### Municipal Elections and Party.

It is wonderful to observe to what an extent our campaign against Party humbug is influencing the forthcoming municipal elections. From all parts of the country we are receiving the addresses of candidates in which they protest that sewage, lighting, etc., are not political questions. On the other hand, here and there we find a crank of the old school. For instance, we have the "Liberal" candidate for the Talbot Ward of Southport telling the electors that if returned it will be his main object to "make Southport a part of the Kingdom of God"—and, also, warning them that a man who said he wanted Sunday cars was an immoral man, in essence and in spirit, and in the end could only bring disaster. We hope the Southport people will mark their sense of such piffle.

### Are You Teetotal?

It has been decided by the Monmouthshire Education Committee that the question whether candidates for teaching appointments in schools should be cross-questioned concerning their teetotal or non-teetotal principles be left to the elementary sub-committee. If the sub-committee insist on making an affirmative answer to the question, "Are you a teetotaler; if not, will you sign the pledge?" a *sine quâ non* of appointment, they will simply fill their schools with hypocrites and liars. A testimonial of temperance ought to satisfy every member of the sub-committee who is not an absolute bigot.

### Pride in Excelsis.

Though the late Duke of Devonshire was born shockingly sleepy, we gather from his "Life," by Mr. Bernard Holland, that he once perpetrated a joke, though it is with the greatest difficulty that we can believe he did. Anyhow, the story is that the Duke had heard somebody say in the House of Lords that this was the proudest moment of his life. "Well," he whispered, turning to the noble lord sitting next him on the crimson benches, "the proudest moment of *my* life was when my pig won the first prize at Skipton fair."

### No Harvest Festival.

Read this, from the lips of a parson:—

> Indeed, it is difficult to see how—with wells dried up, root crops perishing, flocks and herds dying of thirst and hunger, and the leanest winter since the Crimea before us—we can conscientiously hold a distinctively "Harvest Festival." So far as the harvest of Europe is concerned it would be more appropriate to sit in dust and ashes, and of dust there is certainly more than enough to go round.

In these words the Rev. J. H. White, Vicar of St. Augustine's, Croydon, gives his reason for holding no Harvest Festival this year.

### Cash Going Begging.

It is really refreshing to find an Urban Council seriously studying the pocket of the public. But there is no doubt that the Holborn Council are doing this thing, and doing it just about as ungracefully as possible withal. It's like this: Anthony Mealey retired after twenty years in the Council's employ with a pension of 8s. 1d. per week—neither more nor less than that. Now he finds, does Anthony, that by the provisions of the Old Age Pensions Act that odd penny prevents him being entitled to the maximum allowance of 5s. which he would otherwise enjoy. So he does what any one of us would do in his place, namely, requests the Council to reduce their grant by the amount of that one *d*. Do they agree? Not a bit of it. They "sympathise" with Anthony's position, "but regret that," etc., etc. What says our hon. friend Remnant, M.P.—who always has an eye open for these things in his constituency?

### Stealing no Theft.

It is difficult to know how to treat the case of Thomas Bamford, a quartermaster-sergeant in the 104th Battery Royal Field Artillery, at Sheffield, "bound over" for forwarding five boxes of Government stores to a London firm of contractors for sale. For Bamford has given about the best answer to the conundrum, "When is a thief not a thief?" of which we are at date aware. In the first place, he pleads, these were stores which had been accumulating for many years in contravention of the Army Regulations. Secondly, they were not the property of Government at all, having been paid for by soldiers themselves. And, thirdly, he himself would profit in no way by the transaction, having arranged to give the proceeds to charity.

### The Age of Miracles.

Talk about miraculous draughts of fishes—how does the following read in that connection? The sloop *Notre Dame des Flots* left Southampton the other morning in heavy weather with a skipper, five hands and a cargo of wood, bound for Brest. During the passage up comes a huge wave and sweeps all five men incontinently overboard. But the deserted captain has hardly realised the position when up strides a second wave, bigger than the last, and lands every mother's son safely aboard again with jackets scarcely wetted! After this one is prepared to swallow Jonah and his whale without so much as winking.

### Male Servants.

One of our readers, a retired colonel, puts in a plea for the abolition of the licence for male servants, for he contends that "the time has now come when women have extensively assumed the work that was formerly done by men, with the result that there is an enormous amount of unemployment amongst men, so that they are more and more seeking domestic occupation, which many people would gladly give them if it were not for the tax." We must think the matter over.

### Thank You!

We had a wonderful sale in Bermondsey the other week—due to the fact that one of the speakers at the twenty-second anniversary of the "South London Mission and Methodist Settlement in London," the Rev. H. Buckley, took occasion to refer to our attack upon the Rev. F. B. Meyer, and to warn his hearers to shun us! We are glad the demand is maintained.

### "The Baby Problem."

Whilst the Bishop of London is preaching about the wickedness of the middle classes not having more babies, we commend the article under this title, in this week's *Mrs. Bull*, to the attention of our readers.

### Mr. Meyer at Harrow.

The prurient Mr. Meyer visited Harrow the other day, and was received with open arms and enthusiastic worship by the Free Church Council of the district. Among the many utterances which soothed the Nonconformist conscience was his side reference to the notorious pamphlet. According to the local press he said :—

> He never should surrender to anybody in supporting his belief that much of the evil of the world was due more to ignorance than to vice. People were finding severe fault with him, but the letters of thanks that he had received from boys and girls, and mothers and fathers, for what he had been able to do, were a sufficient solace to him when things were said against him.

As balancing the other side, how many letters of protest has Mr. Meyer received from indignant fathers and mothers ?

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### The Parents' Views.

Here, for instance, is an extract from a letter received by us from a South London mother :—

> I think parents cannot be too grateful to you for exposing the vileness of the Rev. Meyer's "Letter." I think it a great shame that all the efforts of us poor mothers to keep our children clean and respectable in body and mind should be wasted in consequence of the circulation—by "religious" people, forsooth !—of so demoralising and filthy an effusion. I am sure that if some of the parents whose children's bodies and minds have been ruined in consequence of reading this pamphlet could only get hold of Mr. Meyer, he would certainly require the protection of the very men he has been so violently denouncing—the prize fighters.

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### The Same Old Game.

By thirty-eight votes to eleven the Grimsby Board of Guardians have given the rate-collectorship, worth £300 a year, to a Mr. John Lamming, the son of the retiring rate collector, Mr. Thomas Lamming. Nothing like keeping the heirlooms in the family.

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### Perhaps—Perhaps Not.

Because the choir refrained from turning to the east at the Creed, the Rev. J. Beanland, Vicar of Willesden, refused to preach at the recent harvest festival service. If they continue in their obstinacy, no doubt the vicar will presently refuse to take his stipend.

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### The Smile That Won't Come On.

The Rev. A. J. Waldron, of Brixton, is observant. He has been telling a congregation at Bow that the sinners he has met don't look miserable ; they look happier than the Christians. True, looks are not everything ; but why doth the curate pale ? We wish somebody would tell us.

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### Sunday Closing in Australia.

Our lively contemporary, *The Sydney Bulletin*, publishes a sketch of a red-nosed, bulgy-eyed maniac, pointing the finger of reproach at a smug, unctuous person in clerical attire, the words attached being : "At the Wowser's Door ! Another case of death through drinking methylated spirits occurred yesterday.—*Any Monday's paper.*—Angry Drinker (to Wowser) : 'Murderer !'" Wowser is, of course, the colonial equivalent of kill-joy.

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### "Recognition."

The beautiful unanimity of the daily press on the Railway Commission Report is encouraging. Says the *Daily Telegraph :* "Recognition Refused ;" the *Daily Mail :* "A Compromise on Recognition ;" the *Daily Chronicle :* "Limited Recognition Recommended ;" the *Daily News :* "The Unions are to be recognised." So now we know exactly what the situation is !

### Naughty, Naughty !

The July issue of the *Midhurst Parish Monthly Magazine* has been brought to our notice by a reader surprised at finding sprightliness in an unexpected quarter. It contains the following little anecdote, described as "From the Persian" :—

> There was a Dervish who heard a man with a very unpleasant voice reading the Koran aloud. The Dervish begged him to stop, but the man replied, "I am not reading for money but for God's sake," to which the holy man answered, "Then for God's sake do not read."

And, by the way, considerable and unusual broad-mindedness is displayed in the Confucian epigram immediately preceding the paragraph quoted above : "If you do well here, you will do well there. I could tell you no more if I preached to you for a year."

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### Enterprise.

Our bright, sparkling, enterprising contemporary, the *London Gazette*, has just issued its Coronation supplement ! It is a "weighty" compilation, as exhilarating as Debrett. True, the only illustration is the Lion and the Unicorn. But for solid facts, for what really did happen, who was there and what they did, it is unique. We can also recommend it to anyone suffering from insomnia, or desiring a good hefty paperweight. If the *Gazette* humorists do many more things like this we shall have *Punch* making a bid for the services of the whole staff.

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### To Lodging House Keepers.

From the *Berkshire Chronicle :*—

> Jesus Calls.—Preacher requires homely lodgings. 2s. 6d. week.

We presume morning and evening prayers, and an occasional christening, would be thrown in ?

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### A Warning from Switzerland.

"Exiled" writes us from Zurich as follows :—

> If a foreigner, and more so if an Englishman, by whose money the Swiss nation practically exists and is saved from starvation, wishes to reside and earn his living in the country, he cannot expect either to meet a British Consul or representative who is not a Swiss, or receive fair dealing with regard to his children's schooling, and he must be prepared to pay on whatever income or earnings he may have 4½ per cent. (four-and-a-half per cent.), and this income or earning is presumed to be whatever the authorities think it should be. All private fortunes, whether they exist or not, are calculated from your appearance, and whatever objection you may make is absolutely useless—you have no one to defend your case, no Consul at all interested in you or your affairs. The Britisher is robbed in whatever business he undertakes, or whenever he purchases the necessities of life. If he is not a rich tourist, ready to pay through the nose for every commodity, he is bullied, and even if he pays his way with gold, he is laughed at behind his back.

The above is the experience of a Britisher after four years' living in the country.

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### Good Health.

News from Saigon, in Cochin China, has it that MM. Guerin and d'Herille have succeeded in manufacturing wine from the bountiful and booming banana. It is added that not only is the new wine much cheaper than ordinary spirit, but has a delicious odour. The growers may send us a case. What we cannot drink we will distribute among the aqua-puritans with directions for use as a perfume.

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### H. G. Wells on Party.

A Party machine is surely as likely a thing to cause a big disorder of war and as unlikely a thing to conduct it, as the wit of man, working solely to that end, could ever have devised.—(*From "Anticipations."*)

JUSTIFICATION BY DEEDS.

Our attitude with regard to Mr. Churchill's edition of the Shops Bill having been widely misunderstood, owing to misapprehension of the terms of the measure, we are pleased to see in *The Times* a letter from Mr. J. A. Stacey, Secretary of the Early Closing Assocation, in which he says: "Drapers, grocers, and other shopkeepers in various trades have voted against it, or important clauses, in the principal towns from London to Glasgow, or rather from Plymouth to Dundee. The same story is true of Wales. While masters are thus hostile, I am not aware that men or women anywhere have voted in its favour."

NAME, PLEASE!

Speaking recently in Liverpool, Mr. Ben Tillett said that in certain slum districts undertakers were engaged in buying up the property and "letting it out at cheap rentals, because what they lost in rent they gained in burial charges." Now, as we believe Ben never speaks without his book, we should like to have the address of one of these undertakers. We would then go round with our whip and see that what he gained in burial charges he lost in doctor's bills.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS.

Just a reminder that a good, seasonable Christmas present awaits every reader of JOHN BULL who, between now and the arrival of that festive date, lends us a hand in further increasing our sales. The advertisements will look after themselves.

THE WEEK'S "CHESTNUT":—

A lady of doubtful years asked a man friend to guess her age, and received this cryptic reply: "I should not like to—*but you don't look it.*"

## *OUR MILLIONTH COPY OFFER.*

### *THE LOTTERY DIFFICULTY.*

*As already announced, we have been warned by the Chief Commissioner of Police that our offer of £500 for the millionth copy of* JOHN BULL *first sold in one week, in the ordinary way through the trade, is technically a lottery—i.e., that in the opinion of the authorities some infinitesimal fraction of the penny which is paid for* JOHN BULL *represents the purchase price of a "chance." Analysed, this, of course, means that we have suddenly decided to reduce the price of* JOHN BULL *by that infinitesimal fraction, but to still take the full money—for a lottery ticket! Having looked carefully into the law—which everybody knows is "a ass"—we are satisfied that, if proceedings were taken, a body of learned Judges, after rummaging through all the ancient law books, would probably come to the conclusion we have indicated above. Now we must not break the law, and, therefore, we must* NOT *say that we will give £500 for the first millionth copy of* JOHN BULL *sold bona-fide by the trade—but we* MAY *say, and we* DO *say, that we shall in due course announce the distinctive number of that millionth copy, and that we shall be pleased to make the personal acquaintance of the reader who happens to hold it—if only for the pleasure of shaking hands with him or her, and passing a few words on the political situation and the weather.*

## *"John Bull's" Biscuits.*

*For stating in a story published in the "Bristol Observer" that one of the characters "poured brandy down the* DEAD *man's throat. A* DEEP SIGH—*a* GASP—*and* HIS EYES OPENED VACANTLY,"

Mr. WILMOT KAYE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For stating of a projected crematorium, that "In addition to its utility in West Gloucestershire generally, such an institution must prove an inestimable boon to the local* GOLF CLUB, *and will doubtless compel the Midland Railway Company to open a* REFRESHMENT ROOM *at Mangotsfield Station,"*

*THE DURSLEY GAZETTE*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For stating in a recent case, according to the "Express and Echo" (Exeter), that a child was "small for its* SIZE,"

INSPECTOR HAYWARD (of the N.S.P.C.C.)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For the following announcement: "Readers are reminded that the* EDITOR *of the 'Butterfly's' Grand New Paper, 'Fun and Fiction,' ½d.,* IS NOW ON SALE EVERYWHERE,"

*CHIPS*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For stating in an account of a burglary at an hotel that the thieves "*PURLOINED THE COFFEE ROOM,"

*THE HARROW OBSERVER*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For moving (according to the "Hants and Sussex News") at the Annual Meeting of the subscribers to the Petersfield Autumn Show, "that a letter be written* TO *Mr. Cox, expressing their regret at his* DECEASE;"

Mr. HENRY MELLS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For the following heading to an article: "Greater Birmingham Election. How to Vote:* PLUMBERS INADMISSIBLE,"

*THE BIRMINGHAM DAILY MAIL*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For stating in an account of a recent accident to a railway passenger, that: "A* TRAIN *was seen to be rolling over and over between the platform and the carriage step,"*

*THE MANCHESTER EVENING CHRONICLE*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For stating that: "The* PRESENT *Lord Seafield was born at Oamaru, in New Zealand, and at one time worked for his living in that colony. It was reported that he had been a farm bailiff, but that his* WIDOW *denied,"*

*THE DAILY TELEGRAPH*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For advertising in the "Loughton and District Advertiser" of October 14th: "New* SUMMER *Goods for* 1911 *Now in Stock,"*

Mr. H. ERNEST ("Practical Tailor, Alfrida Parade, Woodford")
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For reporting in a "graphic account" of an explosion on H.M. destroyer "Nymphe" one of the members of the crew as saying, "We were firing at moving targets when there was a terrific explosion from the* PORT-STARBOARD *six-pounder,"*

*THE DAILY MIRROR*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For stating that: "A marriage will take place between Mr. Herbert W. Heberden, of Shiliacary, Panalur, Travancore, and Evelyn Maud,* DAUGHTER OF THE 2nd BENGAL FUSILIERS, *and of Mrs. Toogood, late Capt. Alexander D. Toogood, of the old Camberley, Surrey,"*

*THE ENGLISH MAIL* (Calcutta)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

# THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR AND MR. BOTTOMLEY.

## IS THE TREASURY CONTEMPLATING ANOTHER PROSECUTION?—EXTRAORDINARY ATTITUDE OF SIR CHARLES MATHEWS—REFUSAL TO AFFORD ANY INFORMATION OR OPPORTUNITY FOR EXPLANATIONS—INSTRUCTIVE CORRESPONDENCE.

In our issue of September 23rd last appeared the following paragraph:—

POOR EDITOR!

"A Friend" writes.—"Be on your guard. They mean mischief again. As soon as you are through your present troubles, the Public Prosecutor is going to have another go at you, and this time, he says, you won't slip through his fingers." Oh, dear us!

In Mr. Bottomley's recent speech at the Crystal Palace the following sentences occurred:—

. . . . . I am conscious that I am not likely to have very much rest from certain quarters even then. I think it was Lord Byron who said, "Being of no Party, I offend all Parties." That is my misfortune; so there are other weapons available for this troublesome stormy petrel who is causing all this pother in the orthodox political world. There are means by which it may be sought to effect a man's financial ruin; they are having a very good try at that. There is a ready way out of such difficulties which will occur to you; but I have always preferred to hold my end up; so I dismiss that.

I mentioned just now Party, Puritanism and Priestcraft. Politics seem to abound in capital P's. For instance, there are Place and Power and Plunder, which pretty well represent the Party game. The Party machine has three methods of dealing with troublesome individuals. First, if a man is not backed up by a strong and independent constituency, they give him the Push; instances, Lord Robert Cecil, Mr. Hilaire Belloc, Mr. Gilson Bowles, Mr. Harold Cox—not the most insignificant intellects of the House of Commons; they got the Push because they would not play the Party game. They were biters. Another "P," for the barkers who do not bite, is Promotion; instances, my honourable and distinguished friend Mr. Masterman, who was a great barker, and my good friend, Dr. Macnamara, who barked a little at the Government but did not bite. They give the Push to the weak; they give Promotion to the harmless; and there is Prosecution left for the others. I have heard it hinted that I am not out of all my troubles yet from that point of view; but I cannot help feeling that I need not worry myself about that. There is a stage at which prosecution becomes persecution, and at which the British public would not stand it any longer.

As the Long Vacation drew to a close, gossip and rumour became less circumstantial and centred around the affairs of the John Bull Investment Trust and Agency, Limited—a small Guernsey financial company (in no way concerned with the publication of this journal) of which Mr. Bottomley was the sole Director, and practically all the debts of which he has either personally discharged or assumed liability for, and nearly every share of which he controls. We are not, however, concerned with the merits or demerits of the undertaking or with Mr. Bottomley's conduct of its affairs. What we desire to direct attention to is a matter of great public moment, namely, the attitude of the Public Prosecutor in declining to afford any opportunity for explanations of the matters of complaint.

It may be, of course, that the matter has not assumed a sufficiently definite form to enable Sir Charles Mathews to tabulate specific items; on the other hand, assuming that further mischief is meant, it may be that, in accordance with tradition, the Treasury gang, irritated by past failures and desperately intent upon bringing Mr. Bottomley down, prefers to take him by surprise, hurling at the head of a jury a mass of complicated, technical and confused transactions and asking them to assume fraud—because, in the words of the Lord Chief Justice in a recent case, "something extraordinary *must* have happened."

The story is contained in the following correspondence:

93, Long Acre, London, W.C.,
October 12th, 1911.

Sir Chas. W. Mathews,
Director of Public Prosecutions,
Whitehall, S.W.

SIR,—

JOHN BULL INVESTMENT TRUST AND AGENCY, LIMITED.

I do not know whether you are aware that Mr. Edward Bell, of the firm of Carter and Bell, Solicitors, is going about stating that he hopes upon the strength of particulars which have been prepared by him in connection with the liquidation of this Company to induce you to institute proceedings against me.

I also do not know whether you are aware that for some years past Mr. Bell has been labouring under an obsession in regard to myself, and that upon one occasion on my complaint he was rebuked in Court for unprofessional conduct and upon another was censured by the Law Society.

In these circumstances I hope you will look very carefully into any particulars formulated by Mr. Bell—and I have only to add that if in connection with the affairs of this Company there is any matter upon which you would like an explanation from me I shall be prepared to furnish it without delay in order that you may have both sides of the matter before you.

What course, if any, you might then decide to adopt is a matter for you to determine. All that I desire to make clear is (1) that any information which comes before your Department in the circumstances I have mentioned emanates from a tainted source, and (2) that I hold myself in readiness to afford you the fullest explanation upon any subject relating to the Company in regard to which you care to ask it; and it would be convenient that I should know your wishes, if any, at once, as I am now engaged upon the preparation of a Statement of Affairs with the Company's books—recently received from Guernsey—before me.

I am forwarding a copy of this letter to the Attorney-General.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

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Whitehall, London, S.W.,
October 13th, 1911.

SIR,—

THE JOHN BULL INVESTMENT TRUST AND AGENCY, LIMITED.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
CHARLES W. MATHEWS.

Horatio Bottomley, Esq., M.P.,
Editorial Offices of "John Bull,"
93, Long Acre, W.C.

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93, Long Acre, London, W.C.,
October 16th, 1911.

Sir Chas. W. Mathews,
Director of Public Prosecutions,
Whitehall, S.W.

SIR,—

JOHN BULL INVESTMENT TRUST AND AGENCY, LTD.

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 13th inst., which, however, you must permit me to say, is not quite satisfactory. Either you have or you have not had certain complaints before you in reference to the above Company of which I was the sole Director; and having regard to the fact that the books of the Company are over

here for a limited time, to say nothing of my position as a public man, my request (and I do not think it is an unreasonable one) is that if the former be the case you should afford me an opportunity of dealing with any of such complaints—a course which, as I have previously explained, would in no way affect your freedom of action should such explanation be unsatisfactory.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

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Whitehall, London, S.W.,
October 17th, 1911.

SIR,—

*Re* JOHN BULL INVESTMENT TRUST AND AGENCY, LIMITED.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, and to inform you that in my opinion it would be contrary to my duty to supply you with the information for which you therein apply.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
CHARLES W. MATHEWS.

Horatio Bottomley, Esq., M.P.,
Editorial Offices of "John Bull,"
93, Long Acre, W.C.

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93, Long Acre, London, W.C.,
October 17th, 1911.

Sir Chas. W. Mathews,
Director of Public Prosecutions,
Whitehall, S.W.

SIR,—

*Re* JOHN BULL INVESTMENT TRUST AND AGENCY, LIMITED.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th inst., and must express my great surprise at the attitude you adopt. You do not need to be reminded that from the time when you, as Treasury Counsel, were concerned in the abortive prosecution of myself and others in connection with the Hansard Union, down to the present, I have been constantly harassed by legal proceedings, which, in all cases where serious issues have been involved, have invariably proved equally abortive. I need not remind you, by way of illustration, of the case in which you were officially concerned at the Guildhall two years ago, when the summons was dismissed by the Magistrate without my being called upon for any defence. And no good purpose would be served by my concealing from you the fact that I know a great deal which has been said and is being said in your Department respecting its desires and hopes in reference to me. I, indeed, have considerable evidence in my possession as to what has been going on there during recent months and as to the identity of various persons with whom you have been in touch with regard to any further proceedings against me.

I am a fairly strong man, but there is a limit to human endurance—and I repeat that it is but elementary justice that you, as a public official, paid by the public to administer public justice, free from partisanship or feeling of any kind, should without hesitation accede to my reasonable request that whilst the books of the John Bull Investment Trust and Agency are over here and I have free access to them, you should afford me at least the opportunity of clearing up any points or allegations which may have been lodged against me, more especially having regard to the venomous spring from which they take their origin. I have not suggested that you should express any opinion one way or the other as to the adequacy of such explanations as I may furnish you with—being quite content to leave the full responsibility of action with you when you have both sides before you.

I am forwarding a copy of this letter to the Attorney-General, with a request that he will direct you to reconsider your decision, and assuming that he should consider that he has not the power to do so, I shall have no alternative but to appeal to the Home Office, either direct or through Parliament, in the matter.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

Whitehall, London, S.W.,
October 19th, 1911.

SIR,—

*Re* JOHN BULL INVESTMENT TRUST AND AGENCY, LIMITED.

With reference to your letter of yesterday's date, I beg to inform you that, after consulting with the Attorney-General, I adhere to the opinion expressed in my letter of the 17th instant, and that I have no intention of departing from the attitude I therein adopted.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
CHARLES W. MATHEWS.

Horatio Bottomley, Esq., M.P.,
Editorial Offices of "John Bull,"
93, Long Acre, W.C.

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October 20th, 1911.

Sir Chas. W. Mathews,
Director of Public Prosecutions,
Whitehall, London, S.W.

SIR,—

*Re* JOHN BULL INVESTMENT TRUST AND AGENCY, LIMITED.

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 19th inst., the contents of which amaze me. To the ordinary man in the street I think it would come somewhat as a shock to learn that when a member of His Majesty's Parliament becomes aware that certain transactions in which he has been concerned have been placed before you for consideration, in your official capacity, and while the material for enabling him to explain such matters is for a limited period accessible to him, you decline to give him the slightest indication of the nature of the allegations, in order that he may have the opportunity of offering any explanation he may wish to give.

Permit me to say that, in my view, and I believe in that of every just-minded person, such a course of action is not calculated to enhance the prestige of your Department in public estimation.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

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Such is the correspondence which has taken place between Mr. Bottomley and the Public Prosecutor. In the language of the lawyers, it "speaks for itself." And it speaks a very ugly story—one which we venture to say will fill the country's mind with amazement, and with pain. Upon what conceivable plea of public interest can the action of Sir Charles Mathews be justified? A moment's reflection should have convinced him that nothing could be more in the interests of justice than that, if he really were contemplating further proceedings, he should have Mr. Bottomley's defence before him before he started. But in Government departments, Convention and Red Tape are supreme—even where a man's good name, or his liberty, or his life may be involved. What care these men about such things? They must justify their fat salaries by making a show of activity, and in the words of one of them, proved in a previous case, it would be "a great feather in their cap" if they could capture such a troublesome individual as the protagonist of a Business Government, and the enemy of the corrupt system of which they are the creatures.

Let it be clearly understood that it is no part of our case to accuse Sir Charles Mathews of personal bias. He is the creature of the system of which he is a part. He looks at everything through the spectacles of Officialism. That was not the purpose for which he was appointed. It was hoped, and expected, that—with the reorganisation of the Public Prosecutor's department, and the placing at its head of so experienced and learned a man as Sir Charles Mathews—at length we were to have a Minister of Justice. Are we to be disappointed? The matter is one which affects every citizen.

## ANOTHER "AKBAR" ATROCITY.

### HOW A LAD WAS CRIPPLED FOR LIFE.

In 1908, when Beuttler was made Superintendent—carried away by the fantastic and fatuous notion to which we referred in our first articles upon the "Akbar" atrocities—he ordered the boys at the "Akbar" Nautical School to dress as scouts, for which purpose long blue stockings were served out. Francis Walter Cliff was at this time an inmate. In 1907 he had been sentenced to stop on the "Akbar" for three years; prior to his removal there he had been examined by the police surgeon at Leeds and certified as fit for the sea, and on arrival at the "Akbar" he was similarly inspected and certified by the ship's doctor. On August 1st, 1908, he grazed his heel with his boot, raising a blister. The dye from one of the new stockings got in and caused blood-poisoning; the stockings were not washed before they were worn, and several other boys also suffered in this way. He showed his hurt to Beuttler the day after it happened, and was given some vaseline, but the injury was not dressed to keep out the dirt. Two days later he could scarcely walk; but he was carried to his instructions and forced to drill. When he did not join the divisions, Beuttler asked him the reason, whereupon he was shown the hurt. Beuttler laughed and ordered him to take his place. He hopped on his right leg to divisions; after inspection he was carried by a boy to prayers; when the day's schooling was over he had to go and bathe in the River Dee, and then for a walk on the beach. This callous treatment went on for a week, when the village doctor saw the heel and ordered Cliff to bed at once. This doctor treated him for a fortnight, and then directed his removal to the Royal Southern Hospital, Liverpool, upon arrival at which institution a minor operation was immediately performed. After being there nearly a month, the surgeon amputated his left leg above the knee. Then his right arm and leg also became affected, the poison having got thoroughly into the boy's system. On December 5th, 1908, he was discharged as incurable, a hopeless cripple, and sent home to be a drag on his widowed mother.

Superintendent Beuttler was present at his discharge from the hospital, and saw him carried out and knew that he would never be able to work again. Despite this, he has recently written asking for the name of the boy's employer, and instructing him to report himself—and this, in face, too, of the fact that Cliff's three years' sentence expired twelve months ago!

It should be mentioned that all the time the boy was in the school hospital he was given the ordinary food supplied to the lads on the ship, except on the last day, when some meat extract was allowed him, to keep up his strength till he reached Liverpool.

Superintendent Beuttler refused the lad's application for compensation, whereupon the Home Office were communicated with, but in a letter, dated May 4th last, they say they cannot find any evidence to support Cliff's statement that his present condition is due to carelessness and neglect on the part of the school authorities, and regret they cannot assist him. As Cliff points out, they cannot find such evidence for the simple reason that—as our recent disclosures proved—they do not know how the school has been carried on—and apparently do not very much care!

### TRADES AND LABOUR COUNCILS WAKING UP.

The *Bradford Daily Telegraph* states:—

> The disclosures of the alleged severe cruelties perpetrated at the Akbar Reformatory, Heswell, will occupy the attention of the Bradford Trades and Labour Council at their meeting next Thursday, when an executive recommendation will be put that "all reformatories and industrial schools should be placed under the control of publicly-elected bodies in order that managers of these institutions may be responsible to the public."

Better late than never!

The business man who wishes to succeed should lose no time in writing to the Caxton Publishing Company, Ltd., 54, Surrey Street, London, W.C., for a copy of their free book describing the "Business Encyclopædia." This work is now used by over 50,000 business firms and prominent business men.

## THE CHICHESTER BENCH AGAIN.

### EIGHTEEN POTATOES EQUAL ONE WIFE!

In a recent issue we had occasion to comment on the vindictive sentence of 10 days' hard labour passed by the Chichester magistrates on a poor old man who had carried away half-a-dozen potatoes from the field where he was digging. These brilliant holders of the scales of British justice—we give their names so that they be not unhonoured and unsung: Mr. F. Baring du Pre (in the chair), Mr. C. Egerton Legge, D.L., Captain Warren, Rev. Chancellor Davey, Mr. Anderton Greenwood, Mr. G. F. Lees, Mr. H. Lovett and Mr. W. Tate—have again brought themselves into the limelight by their equally inexplicable conduct towards a brute whom they convicted of having beaten his wife. Here is the case as reported in *The Chichester Observer*:—

Percy George Stevens, of Bognor, did not appear in answer to a summons for assaulting his wife, Annie Stevens.

Mr. H. L. Staffurth, who appeared for complainant, said this was a case of a man assaulting his wife for some years. On September 25th he threatened her life, and on the following day he assaulted her. On the previous night he knocked her down in the street and gave her a black eye. Complainant was a young woman with six children, the eldest of which was eight years old.

Complainant told the Bench she had been married to defendant eight years. On September 25th he threatened to beat her brains out with a hammer, and on the same evening he blacked her eye with his fist. "He is always like it. He comes home drunk and always does it," she said. She did not know how the quarrels began; defendant usually came in and struck her at once. She did not give him any provocation when he assaulted her on September 26th. He came in and knocked her down and then kicked her.

The Chairman interposed and said the Bench were inclined to adjourn the case to have defendant present, but there was the difficulty of what would happen to the wife between now and the resumed hearing.

Mr. Staffurth said that was his difficulty. The complainant had been turned out of her house with six children, and he did not know what would happen to them.

The Bench decided to issue a warrant for defendant's arrest at once, so that he could be brought up on Monday.

Later on Mr. Staffurth came into Court and said defendant was in the precincts of the Court, and had threatened his wife.

The Bench thereupon ordered the warrant to be executed immediately and the man to be brought before them.

He was consequently brought before the Court, and in reply to the charge, pleaded "guilty under great provocation."

The Chichester gentlemen, lacking sense of proportion, utterly devoid of all judicial perspective, let him off with a month! We now know what, in the view of these Justices of the Peace, is the relative value of a potato and a wife. We take it, had the poor old man commandeered 18 potatoes instead of six he would have been accorded 30 days in place of ten. We are pushed therefore to the arithmetical conclusion that 18 potatoes equal one wife. Surely it is time the attention of the Lord Chancellor was called to the disgraceful state of affairs which allows the administration of justice to remain in the hands of these incompetents.

## LETTERS WE HOPE TO RECEIVE.

Dear Sir,—Since reading the report of Lord Rosebery's speech at Glasgow the other day, I have been wondering whether my mania for bilding libraries may not after all be a foolish one. His lordship pointed out that only a very small percentage of the books in any free library are ever taken down from the shelves, and those principally fikshun; and when I konsider that I have already been instrumental in the erekshun of 2,200 Carnegie Libraries, I begin to kwestion whether I have not been a bigger fool with my money than I kalkulated.

Indeed, I don't mind konfessing that I now see how I might have spent my millions much more profitably. I think that by attending more to the bodies of my poorer fellow kreatures, and not being so angshus to improve their minds, I might have been doing a better werk. After all, it is by giving the yung people plenty of good food, decent dwelling places, and reasonable lezhur for innocent rekreashun, that we kan best develop their minds—not by bilding interminable libraries and paking them with kowntless books which will never be red.

I shall erekt and endow no more libraries.

Yours truly,

Andrew Carnegie.

## THE PANIC-STRICKEN "PRUDENTIAL."

### BANDS OF HOOLIGAN AGENTS BREAK UP MEETINGS.

Not daring to take the bold course of endeavouring to silence our attacks by means of an action in the Law Courts, the "Prudential" are desperately trying to stop the mouths of our lecturers by the methods of the hooligan. In Sunderland, a special meeting of "Prudential" hirelings was called immediately before the JOHN BULL lectures, at which officials, both local and drawn from as far afield as South Shields, Newcastle and Manchester, were present. The result was that, after considerable shouting by these individuals, one of the gang came behind the speaker and kicked away the box upon which he was standing. Although the effects of this cowardly attack were not immediately felt, the injury to the lecturer's back caused him afterwards to lay up for a couple of days. Despite this, however, a highly successful meeting was held, the crowd deeply resenting such un-British conduct and compelling the Prudential agents to keep quiet. At the next meeting, two nights after, the "Prudential" gang reassembled in full force and repeated their rowdyism

Darlington, Sunderland, Middlesbrough, Stockton-on-Tees, York, and Hull have witnessed excellent meetings, the final one at the former place being generally admitted locally to be the finest ever held in the district, whilst at York over 3,000 people attended one of the meetings, the proof of the allegations of fraud and forgery, and defiance of the "Prudential" to proceed in respect of these grave charges, invariably carrying the crowd.

There is no doubt that a great wave of indignation at the Prudential trickery—and worse—is sweeping over the country.

#### "LOOSENING A BRICK OR TWO."

Here is an exttact from the London correspondent of the *Policy Holder* :—

> It would seem that the publication of the JOHN BULL articles was not altogether without effect upon the business of the Prudential in some districts, and that in London the attack is recognised as being partly responsible for disappointing results. In a speech delivered the other day by one of the Company's superintendents reference was made to "the big wave of adversity" that had overtaken London and the causes of the trouble were enumerated—the Coronation, the tropical weather, the strikes and general unrest in the industrial world, the Insurance Bill—and "a violent attack in a certain journal" on the Company. Apparently, therefore, Mr. Bottomley has loosened a brick or two, if he has failed to make the walls of Jericho fall.

#### AN AGENT'S PROTEST.

This is the style of thing that goes on under the encouragement of the Managers of the Prudential Assurance Company. An agent writes to us as follows :—

> Some time ago my assistant superintendent went round on my agency and got a poor labouring man with a family of seven children to pay another 3d. weekly. He is already paying 1s. 3d. on the pretence of getting a bonus which he was already entitled to. I might say this man's wage is 13s. weekly, 2s. to pay for rent, 1s. 6d. insurance, leaving 9s. 6d. to live on. Do you call this honest?

We have no doubt that Mr. Thompson would unhesitatingly answer that question in the affirmative.

#### GAGGING THE PRESS.

For a long time past, the policy of the Prudential directors has been to subsidise the press, in the hope that the circulation of inspired puffs of the company might have the effect of counteracting our exposures. The latest instance of this dodge was the insertion of a lengthy article in one of the financial dailies, and the purchase of about a quarter of a million copies. The joke of the thing is that the article was signed with the initials "L. A. W."!

## THE BASHFUL CURATE.

### A SHEPHERD WHO LEFT TALES BEHIND HIM.

The following is from the *Marshfield and Peterstone Parish Magazine* :—

> The Rev. J. Harrys, who has worked in this parish for over five years, has somewhat unexpectedly left us. He told the Vicar that he was far from well and needed a long rest and change, possibly involving a sea trip, and suggested that unless he changed his mind his place in the parish should be filled. He has not felt equal to returning to his duties, and has, we now hear, actually set out on a long sea trip. We can only say how sorry we are that so long a stay in the parish should end so abruptly, and we trust that his health will speedily be entirely restored. . . . It is a common practice among evilly disposed persons to associate a man's sudden disappearance with all sorts of wrong doing We can only suggest to those who hear slanders and libellous tales to treat them with the same degree of contempt that they would treat such stories if told of themselves behind their backs.

Oh, these country gossips! But this is the first time we have heard of a curate of five years' good and faithful service "retiring" without having a farewell service, not to mention a "purse" from his loving flock.

## A PECULIAR INDUSTRY.

### THE UTILISATION OF CHINAMEN'S PIG-TAILS.

A correspondent says:—"I chanced to drop on an industry which I had never dreamed of. I could not resist the temptation to make a few enquiries. It is termed 'The Human Hair Trade.' Quite an innocent title, and naturally my mind turned to the manufacture of ladies' 'transformations.' I discovered it was nothing of the sort. I found two firms who do it, and was given the names of several others. The business is the weaving of a particular cloth from human hair, and quite a large business is done in it. It was with difficulty that I ascertained to what use it was put, the makers naturally being rather reticent. It is used for straining solids from liquids, and goes to oilcake, cider and jam makers, in the two latter cases being used for the separation of the fruit from the juice. It appears that nothing else answers as well. I was curious to know where the large bales came from, as they were evidently imported, and were mostly in plaits, which were being opened up by women. Fine and dusty some of it was too, and some in cases (of low grade) verminous. As soon as I was told, I could see that the information was correct. They were *Chinamen's pig-tails*. As I happen to be aware of the fictitious value the Celestials place upon their appendages, I naturally was keen to know how they could be induced to part with them and how they were obtained in such quantities. *I found out. They are cut from corpses.*"

## A VETERAN OF THE STARS AND STRIPES.

### A HOME LESSON.

In our issue of June 3rd we drew the attention of the United States Government to the claim of one of its Civil War veterans. Previous to our publication of the old man's story, he had for years endeavoured to obtain the pension which was his due, but without avail. Now he is happy, for where his individual efforts failed we have succeeded. Here is his letter :—

> It is with very earnest and heartfelt gratitude that I take the earliest opportunity to tender you my thanks for your extreme kindness by causing my case re pension to be inserted in your valuable paper and in bringing my claim to a successful issue. I received my first pension payment on September 27th. Again thanking you.

It is indeed a pleasure to help some people; they are so grateful. We congratulate the Government of the United States on this justification of their boast that *all* their old soldiers—not only those broken in their wars—are, despite the huge financial burden cast upon the country, provided for in their old age.

*WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?*
SEE PAGE iii. OF COVER

## THE REAL CAUSE OF THE STRIKE.

By Norman Tiptaft.

Now that the strike is comfortably over, and England is itself again, one can, with considerably less heat and infinitely less discomfort, enquire what it was all about. In fact, what all strikes are about.

During the strike it was obviously the fault of Mr. Lloyd George, or Mr. Balfour, or the Labour Party, or the Socialists, or the general cussedness of the British working man. Whether it were or not, it was confoundedly inconvenient and, anyhow, the men should have adopted a more gentlemanly and respectable way of airing their grievances if—which appears possible—they had any.

But now it's over, and a body of gentlemen chosen from both sides has decided what it *really* was all about and what shall be done in future to avoid strikes, and a promise has been held out to the railway companies of new legislation being introduced with the object of *revising* the present fares. "Revising" is a good word. I think we may take it for granted that the "revision" will *not* be in a downward direction.

So the probabilities are that, as a result of the strike, the railway men will get slightly higher wages and the public will pay those wages plus a slight—or otherwise—profit to the directors in the shape of higher fares and higher goods rates, which of course means the extra charges will, as per usual, in one form or another come out of the consumer, and the consumer—great discovery this—is the same old British working man. The man who, in the end, pays nearly all—even as he produces and distributes nearly all.

And then?

Then the cost of living having risen a bit more, the profits of the capitalists having also risen, and everybody who is anybody being better off, the working man will find that his 1s. or 1s. 6d. or 2s., whatever the sum is that he manages to get, will not purchase him any more than he was getting before, and will strike again.

That is all. The capitalist, whether he be a railway shareholder or an employer of labour, will continually pass his burden on; when the cost of living has risen to a prohibitive point the workman will strike again unless—

Well, unless such drastic legislation is introduced as makes strikes and the necessity for strikes impossible. And such legislation can only be brought about by a frank recognition of the cause of all the strikes and unrest which at the present time pervade the Labour world.

That necessary frank recognition is not even suggested in the present report of the Royal Commission. More conciliation, more negotiation, more hopeless enslavement of the men, more power to the railway companies, more platitudes, more of "God's in His heaven, all's right with the world," but of a minimum wage for every worker there is nothing.

Fancy a Commission deputed to touch the root cause of things talking piffle like this:—

"In humbly submitting these our views we beg your Majesty's gracious permission to travel for an instant out of the terms of our reference. The railway service of the United Kingdom is second to none. The public regards its railway system with pride and confidence. That system has been built upon great traditions and high ideals, and it is the privilege of every railwayman in the kingdom of every class and grade to participate in and contribute towards the great trust with which he has been invested. We think we express the general opinion when we say that if railwaymen will only place the call of duty above and before every other consideration they may confidently rely upon the British public to support them in any fair claim fairly put."

"The public regards *its* railways system"—the public does not matter one single twopenny cuss to the railway companies—while as for being *its* system *it* no more belongs to the general public than the moon—not quite as much in fact.

"That system has been built upon great traditions and high ideals"—that system has been built upon legalised robbery and unscrupulous sweating and starvation. The landlords over whose land the railways have been built have extorted fabulous prices for it; the wages paid to the railway workers are many of them below the hunger line. English railways have cost 1,318 millions to build. German, with a greater mileage, have cost only 450—"great traditions and high ideals" forsooth!

"The *privilege* of every railwayman"—at 16s. a week! "The great *trust* with which he has been invested"—it is a great *railway trust* that grinds the face of the poor and then offers them platitudes for wages, empty words for reform, limited recognition for bread.

"If railwaymen will only place the call of duty above and before every other consideration they may confidently rely upon the British public to support them in any fair claim fairly put." Duty to whom? To whom should their first duty be if not to themselves, their wives and their little ones? They have relied on the British public, on the capitalist employers, on pious wishes, on heaven-sent leaders far too long—it is time that their own arm wrought salvation for them.

If the Royal Commissioners are too blind to see or too cowardly to ventilate the real cause of the strike—of all strikes—the men must do it themselves.

That cause has nothing to do with Party politicians or Party politics. Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Balfour are as powerless to arouse it as they are to prevent it.

Forty years of education and agitation have at last made the workman realise that while he is doing the necessary hard, useful work of the world—the work that makes millionaires and upper classes and luxurious parasites—he himself is not having anything approaching a fair share in the wealth which his labour produces.

Now you can twist that about anyhow you like. You can talk all round economic theories, supply and demand, reward of capital and so on and so forth, but the fact remains—one set of people produces the wealth while another set consumes it, and now those who produce it are asking why they have been such fools as to allow it to go on for so long—in any case, to the best of their ability they will decline to let it go on longer. That is the real reason of strikes.

Now that we have seen it, is it such a remarkable thing? Is it not a perfectly natural thing; a thing to be expected? What a man sows, surely that he has a right to reap; but the workers of this and every country have sown for untold ages, yet never have they reaped the result of their sowing.

They have builded all the palaces of Kings and Emperors, yet they themselves have lived in slums. They have wrought the finest fabrics and fashioned them into costly clothes for the rich, while they themselves have not had rags to cover their nakedness. They have brought coal at the risk of their lives from the depths of the earth that the bodies of their masters might be warmed, the while they and their wives and their children shivered by empty grates. They have gone down to the sea in ships and done business in the great waters that they who rested safely on the land might profit. They have fetched and carried, they have builded and delved, they have toiled and suffered and always, *always* for others. Their own children have been dear to them, but they have been compelled to sacrifice them to the Moloch of modern industrialism. They have loved their wives more dearly than ever the rich loved theirs, yet have they seen them needlessly suffer and die. And now—now the time of reckoning is come.

The rich have preached to them patience, contentment, peace; surely it is a wonder they have been patient so long.

There will be no peace, no satisfaction, no contentment until such a state of society is established as gives to the worker the whole reward—or as near as is possible—of the result of his labour, and to the idler the result of *his*.

Whether that be a desirable consummation or not—and from the standpoint of the idle rich class, as well as from that of the active employing class it is emphatically not—it is the only one which holds any possibility of lasting social peace.

Till that time come there will be strikes and lockouts, labour disputes and riots, wars and rumours of wars.

It is no more to be expected that those who have will quietly suffer spoliation—for that is what it largely means—than that those who have not—with a growing consciousness of the wrong that has been done them and their class for thousands of years—will submit quietly to remain as they are.

It is outside the province of this article to map out the trend of the legislation which, with the better education of the people, will eventually result in the ideal state, but the *cause* of the strike, if not its cure, has, I hope, been made clear.

## THE LAW GUARANTEE SOCIETY.

### THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE AND PUBLIC ENQUIRY.

Some little time ago a shareholder in the Law Guarantee Society wrote to the Lord Chief Justice of England and asked his assistance in the work of persuading the Government to secure the compulsory winding-up of this society. Lord Alverstone had allowed it to be known that he is in favour of a "complete investigation," and it is permissible to interpret these words as meaning that he is in favour of compulsory winding-up, since it is by that means only that "complete investigation" could be secured. Our correspondent was, of course, aware of the difficulty he would have in persuading the Lord Chief Justice, having regard to his official position, to take any public action in the matter such as was suggested, but he was encouraged in the hope that Lord Alverstone might see his way to do so, seeing that at the outset, immediately after the collapse of the Society, his Lordship had joined Mr. Justice Grantham, Sir Edward Clarke, and others in a letter to the shareholders in which they were strongly advised to consent to voluntary liquidation; and our correspondent thought that, having given that advice, Lord Alverstone might have joined in the request for compulsory winding up now that it has been made plain to him that he was misled, when signing that letter, as to the facts.

But there is another matter connected with this unfortunate liquidation to which we must refer in very different language. In December, 1909—that is to say, shortly after the collapse of the Society—a Committee was appointed by the shareholders to investigate and report to them on the past management. That was nearly two years ago, and still the shareholders are without the report. We know, on the authority of a member of the Committee, Mr. Bircham, that in January last they had come to the conclusion that there ought to be that searching investigation which our correspondent is asking for, and which the Lord Chief Justice agrees is the proper thing. But the report is withheld from the shareholders. Why?

A shareholder, anxious for an answer to that question, recently wrote to Mr. Pemberton Leach, an eminent member of the Committee, and received the following reply on October 13th:—

> When you last called here I think I told you that the result of the investigations of the Shareholders' Committee and others had been embodied in a case for the opinion of Counsel as to whether any and what liability could be established against the directors or officials of the company.
>
> From various circumstances, apart from the mass of papers involved, the opinion has been delayed, but I am told that it may be shortly expected.

Truly a remarkable reply. By what right did the Committee withhold the report from the body who appointed it, in order to take the opinion of Counsel? It was their duty to report to the shareholders, and it was for *them* to decide what action should or should not be taken. When they had decided whether action should be taken, it was time enough to talk about consulting Counsel. We have wide acquaintance with committees and their reports, but we can recall no occasion when one of them has acted in this way. No doubt, if the shareholders decided that the report was of such a character that it warranted and required action against the directors or officials, they would consult Counsel. The two gentlemen to whom the Committee have referred the report are eminent members of the Bar, Sir Edward Carson and Mr. Younger, and the shareholders might or might not have consulted them; but whether or not, that was a matter for the shareholders and not for the Committee.

*"There is nothing like it in the World."*

*Like What?*

*Like IT.*

*For explanation of the above see the JOHN BULL hoarding at the Strand Island.*

## HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CLXV.

### RUINED BY A MOTOR CAR ACCIDENT.

On September 10th, 1910, Mrs. Furze was knocked down by a motor-car, said to have been driven rapidly. Her child was thrown from its mail-cart, received bruises on the head and leg, and three days afterwards died. Mrs. Furze had concussion of the brain, two ribs fractured, one rib and shoulder dislocated, several teeth knocked out, and severe contusions. The driver was charged at the North London Police Court with being drunk, driving without a licence, exceeding the speed limit, driving to the common danger, and causing bodily harm. After five adjournments he was committed for trial. At the Old Bailey he was found "Not Guilty," and Furze was told it was a case for civil action. On March 3rd, 1911, he was awarded £70 damages, but has not been able to recover a penny of them, the driver pleading that he has no effects. Mrs. Furze is still slightly lame, and appears to be suffering from chorea—her hands and mouth are not still for an instant. Whilst Mrs. Furze was in the infirmary, her husband had to pay another woman to come in and look after the home and children, and was put to other expenses which severely crippled him (he is only a tram-washer in the service of the L.C.C.). It is a very sad case. Here is a family, a humble household, suddenly faced with a terrible calamity, that of death and maiming, through no fault of their own, and on the top of these troubles, and as a consequence of them, Furze and his family are expecting to be turned out of their rooms at any moment through lack of the means to pay their way. A few pounds would be of great service.

We have received the following amounts, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:

CLXI.—F.R.G., 2s. 6d.

CLXIII.—J. M. S., 2s.; O. O. I., 2s. 6d.; Mrs. A. T., 3s. 6d.; "Signalman," 1s.; N. W. M., 2s. 6d.; "Basil," 20s.; A. B. 1s.; W. M., 1s.; "Telephone Jack," 2s. 6d.; K. and G., 1s.; G. A. O., 2s.; J. R. F., 2s.

CLXIV.—"Joben," 20s.

## "SICKENING."

### AN EXPLANATION.

In our issue of October 7th we quoted the case of a soldier at Aldershot whom we alleged had not been properly treated when he first reported himself sick, and we asked, "What's the matter with the Medical Officers at the Connaught Hospital?" It has now been pointed out to us that the man in question did not report himself at the Connaught Hospital, but to a medical officer in charge of an Inspection room, some distance away from the hospital. It was here that the delay of twenty-four hours occurred. Once the man was admitted into the hospital, he received every attention that a man in his then serious condition could require. We have much pleasure in inserting this explanation.

## POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

### A FIRST-CLASS SWEEP.

[*Mr. Walter Hunt, the learned chimney sweep, has been appointed lecturer on sociology by the University Extension Board.*]

Hail, gallant sweep, and may your pupils never
From your bright lectures e'er be playing truant;
Yours is the style that ought to soot them ever,
They can at least be sure it will be flue-nt.

### ON TROUBLED WATERS.

[*Mr. William Parsons has retired on pension from the position of Keeper of the Needles lighthouse, after nearly thirty-five years' service. His hobby has been painting in oils.*]

A better hobby for a lighthouse man
Than that recorded by a cute reporter,
Would be to spoil no canvas with the oil,
But pour it all upon the troubled water.

RICARDO.

## THE ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION.—II.

### A NATIONAL SCANDAL.

By Our Special Commissioner.

I have now visited more than half of the 280 lifeboat stations, and found that a grave sense of dissatisfaction exists amongst the crews regarding the management. A month ago the Caister men were out on strike; a few months before that the Gorleston crew were in a similar state of mutiny; and exactly twelve months ago the brave Broadstairs crew, after proceeding to a wreck, were subsequently treated in a particularly shabby manner by the titled mis-managers at headquarters. The story is typical of the cause of the general discontent.

Why the Broadstairs Lifeboatmen "Struck."

It was about 4 a.m. on February 4th, 1910, that the coxswain of the lifeboat received a telegram from the wireless station informing him that the East Goodwin lightship had reported a vessel ashore, the position not being stated. The lifeboat was launched in ten minutes and proceeded to the Goodwins—some eight miles distant. On arrival, it was found that two other lifeboats had got there before them—those from Ramsgate and Walmer.

Now, the crew of a lifeboat consists of fifteen men, and the following is the scale of payments allowed by the Lifeboat Institution for those who volunteer to go afloat to save life:—

| | Summer. Payments. | Winter. Payments. |
|---|---|---|
| Day | 10s. | 15s. |
| Night | 20s. | 30s. |
| Day and Night | 30s. | 45s. |

So we see that, taking the very highest scale of payment, fifteen men are expected to sit in a boat, handle an oar, strain and pull against a surging sea for twenty-four hours, for the sum of £33 15s.! Think! Fifteen men are asked to face a wintry sea, running mountains high; to leave their wives and families and perhaps face a blinding snowstorm on the treacherous Goodwins—and each of these men will, if he has the luck to get back from the wreck, receive the magnificent sum of 45s.

"But, ah!" the management would say, "look at the honour they attain." Let me, however, resume my story.

Seeing that the Ramsgate and Walmer men were able to deal with the stranded vessel, the Broadstairs boat returned to shore. When the coxswain made application for the 30s. per man, he was informed that the Institution had disallowed it, it being stated that the wreck was out of the Broadstairs radius. This in face of the fact that the message did not state the position of the wreck! Thereupon the Committee were informed by the coxswain that until the amount was paid the Broadstairs men refused to again form a crew for the lifeboat. The record for life-saving, up to the time, of this particular boat was 314 lives!

The Committee behaved like schoolboys. Within a few hours an Inspector (one of the £500 a year men) arrived at Broadstairs and had the lifeboat dismantled; there she stood on the slipway out of service. For four weeks a sort of armed truce existed between the lifeboat men and the Management Committee, during which time the dismantled boat still stood on the slipway. Then the Committee made a bold move. They sent a tug, had the lifeboat launched, and brought her to the storeyard at Deptford. Broadstairs was left without a lifeboat. What matter though there be a shipwrecked crew requiring her services? Hadn't the noble dukes and earls sitting on Committee won their battle against the men?

After an absence of *six months* the Headquarters Committee had the lifeboat returned to Broadstairs, the crew relinquishing all claims. The mighty Powers had won. How, is another story, which I may tell on a subsequent occasion.

"What Oh, She Bumps!"

As I have previously explained, one of the £500 a year Inspectors periodically examines the boats and their crews to see if they are in a state of efficiency. While writing my first article, I "received information from a reliable source," as they would say in H.M. Service, that this self-same Broadstairs lifeboat was to be inspected on October 14th, so I journeyed to that seaside resort in order that I might be a witness—and this is what I saw:—

The crew strapped on their lifebelts and jumped into the boat, as also did the £500 Inspector. Then they let her glide down the slipway into the sea. There she stuck hard and fast for a solid hour until the tide came in and floated her!

Thinking this unusual, I approached an old "salt" who stood on the pier, and asked the meaning. Pulling his pipe out of his mouth, he gave a contemptuous spit on the ground, wiped his mouth with the back of his hand, and exclaimed: "Bah! these people have been told scores of times that we can't float her off the slipway at low-water, but they don't take no notice. This slipway"—(pointing towards the girders down which the boat had slid)—"cost a heap of money, an' we told 'um it was no good. We never can launch her at low-water." Then he walked away from me. Possibly he thought I was one of the Lifeboat Committee, and that he had scored a point. Now I would like to ask the management how they can reconcile this state of affairs with their published boast of a high state of efficiency? Nor is this an isolated case. I am credibly informed that boats at several stations cannot be launched, no matter whether the tide be high or low.

No doubt the businesslike answer of the noble Committee to these strictures would be that vessels becoming wrecks, or desiring the assistance of the Broadstairs boat, should time their call for help at high tide; and, in the case of lifeboats stationed where they cannot be launched, that they are exhibited in a conspicuous position, where passers-by will be reminded to give freely.

More about Finance.

From the annual Report for 1911 I note that the "Saturday Lifeboat Fund" realised £14,592, whilst the cost of collecting is set down as follows:—"Gratuities to officials of Lifeboat Saturday Fund, £843 15s." Now this is a considerable sum, and as it has come to my knowledge that a great number of persons give their services absolutely free on this day, it would be interesting to have particulars of the distribution of the eight hundred pounds. The "Lifeboat *Sunday*" Fund seems to be going rather badly. The churches, at any rate, have their "weather eye" on the management of the Lifeboat Institution, for they contributed a total sum of only £79 15s. 4d! Considering that the Archbishop of Canterbury is one of the practical, businesslike managers of the Lifeboat Institution, the smallness of the collection, in my opinion, should give his Lordship food for reflection.

Here are other wasteful expenditures, all of which require explanation: "Consulting Naval Architect, £314." Who is this naval architect? And why had he to be consulted to the tune of three hundred pounds? Surely, the Lifeboat Institution is not contemplating building *Dreadnoughts?*

The next item is simply amazing: "Surveyor, Assistant Surveyors and Draughtsmen, £1,760 17s. 8d." Now, whatever does this mean? No wonder the "old salt" at Broadstairs was disgusted!

*(To be concluded.)*

## THE GOSPEL OF INDIFFERENCE.

### HERE AND NOW.

The room was wretchedly poor. There was no furniture to speak of. A box served for the table, and a pair of old palliasses with a worn-out army blanket was all the two old people had for a bed. The window was broken, and, facing east, let in the cold wind, whilst the ceiling was so cracked and leaky that the snow in melting had penetrated everywhere, and even the wretched substitute for a bed was saturated. Here these two poor helpless old folks had lived, moved and had their being. How they existed during this winter was known only to themselves. They had their pride—God pity them!—and told their sorrows to no one, but at the inquest on the old wife, the husband stated—sobbing bitterly—that he managed to find enough food in the street garbage to keep them from starving. "It was the cold that caused her death." Coal was so dear and they had no money.

. . . . . .

The latest of our ironclads—the *Indefatigable*—will burn on the average 900 tons of coal in 24 hours.

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An alternative First Prize of **£100** in Cash is offered in the event of the winner being already employed, or for some reason not desiring to take up a situation which may lead to important advancement, and furnish an opportunity to start in the direct line to business success.

In addition there will be a second prize of £25 in cash, a third of £10 in cash and nine other valuable prizes.

The names of the Judges and the fact that the Examination is held for the purpose of finding the best man or woman for the post guarantee the absolute fairness of the test.

**THE JUDGES.**

Sir WILLIAM TRELOAR, Bart. (ex-Lord Mayor of London).

Sir GEORGE RIDDELL (Director: News of the World, Ltd.; Director; Caxton Publishing Co., Ltd.).

Sir JOSEPH LYONS (Managing Director: J. Lyons and Co., Ltd.).

T. J. BARRATT, Esq.; (Chairman: A. and F. Pears, Ltd.).

JOHN LAWRIE, Esq. (Managing Director: William Whiteley, Ltd.).

#### Nature of the Examination.

The Examination is of an interesting character, and no question in it will be found beyond the capacity of an average business mind. Competitors are allowed to use works of reference and to quote them as their authority for the answers given. As it is impossible to print in the limited space of this announcement the whole of the particulars, a brief Prospectus of the Examination has been prepared, indicating the character and scope of the Examination, which will be sent post free on receipt of the coupon at the bottom of next column.

#### Why you should Enter.

It is distinctly understood that sending for the Prospectus of the Examination does not commit any reader to the intention of entering the Competition. You may be already engaged in business for your own benefit, or may be earning a higher salary. But the examination project will nevertheless interest you. You may wish to bring it to the attention of some employé, some junior, or some friend. It is quite certain that the research and thought which will be bestowed on business subjects will make your employé or subordinate more useful in his or her work. Although you may not wish for the £200 salary, the alternative prize of £100 in money may appeal to you. But especially, you, if engaged in business, will undoubtedly find the Examination interesting and informing. It will enlarge your views on Commercial Life. It will lead you to the consideration of problems which might never have occurred to you. It will unquestionably suggest new trains of business thought, and perhaps bring you into contact with ideas having practical value. Without consuming many hours of your time, it will offer you profitable recreation during the long evenings. And, in addition, there are eleven substantial prizes.

#### To the Ambitious Man or Woman.

But, on the other hand, if you are employed in work which does not give full scope to your talents, or are not paid according to your merits, or see no prospects and security of employment before you, this Business Examination offers a unique opportunity. The commencing salary is substantial, but it only represents the beginning of what a man or woman of thorough business training can aspire to. It is an opportunity which seldom occurs. Turn to the "Situations Vacant" in a daily newspaper. See how many business positions at a commencing salary of £200 a year are offered! Observe what is required of a business employé who is to receive even £100 a year. This will give you an idea of what the present offer means to you. And it costs no entrance fee to be a competitor. The only condition is that competitors must own the Business Encyclopædia, for the Caxton Publishing Co., Ltd., honestly believes that the man or woman who does not own that work cannot be fully equipped for success. If you are interested in the offer of a commencing salary of £200 a Year (or alternatively £100 in money) and eleven other prizes, write at once for the prospectus.

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(Send this form or a postcard.)

*Address* .....

.....

## BILLS THAT OUGHT TO BE PASSED.

By W. M.

### THE MATRIMONIAL [DIVORCE] BILL.

Preamble.

Whereas happy homes are the firmest foundation of the State; and

Whereas marriage was designed for (amongst other things) the purpose of providing and maintaining the said happy homes; and

Whereas marriages which are productive of more misery than happiness fail in one of their chief purposes and constitute a serious danger to the moral well-being of the general community; and

Whereas the Facilities for Terminating, Cancelling, and Annulling such unhappy marriages are inadequate, and, by reason of their expense, beyond the reach of poor persons:

The Bill,

Be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:—

1.—From and after the first day of January, 1912, all and any of the reasons hereinafter stated and described shall be deemed adequate grounds for divorce:—

(a) Unfaithfulness on the part of either of the two contracting parties to the marriage;

(b) Habitual drunkenness on the part of either of the said contracting parties;

(c) Incurable insanity on the part of either of the said parties;

(d) The commission of, and conviction for, any indictable offence by either of the said contracting parties;

(e) Intentional desertion of the other, for a period of not less than one year, by any one of the two said contracting parties;

(f) The permanent physical disablement or impotency of either of the said contracting parties, provided always that the party so afflicted be not more than forty years of age;

(g) The persistent refusal, without reasonable medical cause, of either of the said contracting parties when urged and desired by the other to do his or her part towards the production of a family of at least three children;

(h) Neglect or incapacity of the husband to provide his wife and children, if any, with shelter, clothing, and the general necessaries of life, of reasonable quantity and fair quality, according to the social position of the said parties;

(i) Neglect or incapacity of the wife to perform the necessary domestic duties of the home and to provide the children, if any, with reasonable care and attention.

2.—Application for a grant of Divorce shall be made to a Judge of the County Court of the district, who shall be empowered to dissolve the marriage contract upon any or all of the grounds hereinbefore mentioned, provided always that the weight of evidence be in favour of the application.

3.—Upon the declaration of a decree of Divorce, liberty to appeal to Quarter Sessions shall be granted to the Respondent at the discretion of the Judge.

## BIRTHDAY OF THE WEEK.

### "JOHN BULL'S" GREETINGS.

*October 27th.*—Ex-President Roosevelt.

No doubt you'll be resting at Oyster Bay
On this return of your natal day—
Resting, not only from labour done,
But in view of fresh efforts not yet begun;
When Taft, who's lately received a jar,
Will be resting himself, as now you are,
And you, with the big stick in your grip,
Will be once more running the Presidentship.

Then here's good wishes for times in store,
When your grin and your teeth will be seen once more;
When your voice, wherewith you have lectured kings,
Its strident staccato again outrings;
Here's health and luck, and a warning too—
Let Canada be, whatever you do;
Else, like poor Taft, you will strike a snag,
For there's still some vim in the British flag!

## SPURIOUS SYMPOSIUMS.

### "DO YOU SUPPORT THE INSURANCE BILL?"

Supposititious Replies of Prominent People.

In answer to the specific question, "Do you support the Insurance Bill: if so, for what reasons; and if not, why not?" which we recently put to a number of celebrities of the day, we have received the following illuminating replies:—

Lord Rosebery writes:—

In my capacity of Public Orator to the Empire I meet with many questions upon which I am expected to express an authoritative opinion, but never in the whole course of my experience have I been confronted with so pertinent an inquiry as this which you have addressed to me. Fortunately, my immense knowledge of the highways and byways of British history, together with my enormous accumulation of historical data relating to the Napoleonic period—more especially the Last Phase—enables me to judge from past occurrences what are likely to be the consequences of the passing of Mr. Lloyd George's Insurance Bill. I have already stated publicly that we are a spoon-fed nation. If the Government succeed in foisting their precious Insurance Bill upon a reluctant people, I can see the time fast approaching—and I say it to my sorrow and in all solemnity—when we shall richly deserve the degrading and contumelious designation of—a bottle-fed community. The House of Lords must resist this atrocious measure—which threatens to drain the last weak drop of independence remaining in the bosom of the British people—to the utmost of its sadly diminished power. I shall myself exert every effort to arouse the opposition of the peers, but, as is my unfailing habit, I shall finish by voting for it.—Yours truly, Rosebery.

Lord Halsbury sends us the following energetic response:—

Damme, no! Why not? Because the working classes are sufficiently pampered already, and because it is the infernal conception of a pettifogging Welsh attorney, Lloyd George. In this case, as in the case of the Parliament Bill (od rot it!), all the members of the Halsbury Club, of which I am the proud President, are pledged to die hard.—Yours from the last ditch, Halsbury.

Mr. Austen Chamberlain writes a guarded reply:—

I do not quarrel with the principle of the Bill, but I am opposed to it on Party grounds. If the Liberals pass all these measures, Old Age Pensions, Insurance, etc., etc., there will be nothing in the way of social reform for the Conservatives to tackle when—er, when—we come back to office.—Yours anxiously, Austen Chamberlain.

The Bishop of London expresses himself as follows:—

I heartily support the Insurance Bill, not on account of its merits as a whole, but because it provides a maternity benefit of thirty shillings, and, in some cases, three pounds, on the joyous occasion of the birth of a child. Although myself a bachelor, I am a whole-hearted supporter of "the large family," and I feel that the prospect of receiving the useful sum of thirty shillings, thus enabling the happy mother to entertain her friends and relations in a fashion befitting the auspicious occasion, will induce many a woman to submit more often and with less reluctance to become a parent, who otherwise might flatly refuse, or, at least, contemplate the ordeal with dislike and dread.—Yours truly, A. F. London.

## ADDLED ADS.

### SOME PECULIAR ANNOUNCEMENTS.

COMFORTABLE HOME, with small salary, offered refined Country Girl, about 20, in return for help, housework and three children.—Apply——. (*Oxford Times.*)

WANTED, a good Laundry Maid, who can take anything, shirts and collars; Cottage laundry; good home for a suitable person.—Apply——. (*Surrey Mirror.*)

MONDAY NIGHT AT 1 O'CLOCK
Will Sell by Auction.
300 pairs BOOTS, SHOES, SLIPPERS, Etc.
Absolute Sale.—(*Sunderland Daily Echo.*)

The Readers of JOHN BULL have been quick to recognise the benefits of the "WAVERLEY WAY" in conjunction with the finest and most attractive of books.

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Both Fielding and Smollett are coming into their own. And why? Because they are the kind of books that live, the books that would escape the condemnation passed by Lord Rosebery the other day on libraries and their contents. The eclipse which these authors have suffered through the excising and the editing deemed necessary by a prudish generation is over, and their innate genius is bursting forth once more to the delight of thousands.

The life of the Georgian days which Fielding and Smollett so skilfully and realistically depict was really no worse than our own, but authors then were more outspoken: they called a spade a spade. And readers are none the worse for that. It is this outspokenness which gives us the real atmosphere and a true reflex of the manners and customs of the eighteenth century.

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(*b*) Harrison Ainsworth.

(*c*) Alexander Dumas.

and full particulars as to your offer to deliver the complete work for a first payment of 2s. 6d. It is understood that the sending of booklet does not entail on me any obligation to buy.

*Name* .....

*Address* .....

J.B. 9, 1911. .....

## LEAVE-TAKINGS.

By Jim Crow.

*[Mr. James Crow is our Licensed Crank. A brilliant exponent of unconventional ideas—invariably distorted and lacking in perspective; cynical and epigrammatic in expression—he is a journalistic cat amongst the pigeons. We accept no responsibility for his opinions—or his life.]*

Is there anything in the wide, round, fat world so hideous as the reverberation of "Good-bye"? If I see an accursed aunt or a mildewed grandmother or the chocolate-box lady off by the last train, I feel a sinking in my nether stomacher. If I had to witness the departure of the Beloved for the Indies or even for a week-end in the country, I should dissolve into tears, kick my Pekinese, insult my money-lender, give way to the most improper emotions.

Never.

A French philosopher once said that the rudest word in his language (and there are so many!) was that hideous monosyllable "No." I rather agree, for there are so many plausible alternatives. It is so easy to murmur from the Treasury Bench that "The answer is in the negative." How much ruder to say "Good-bye." It is final, aggressive, almost nocturnal. But that I am the enemy of all foul foreigners, I would try to pronounce "*Au revoir.*"

2s. 6d.

Anyhow, I can never lose my readers, my disciples, mine own familiar friends, my creditors, my liquescent co-respondents. Like the poor, they are always with me, if only to cadge for evanescent half-crowns—if I may believe Bohemian books. No one ever asked me for half a crown, perhaps because I am a notorious royalist.

R.I.P.

Death is a topic which I never permit to be mentioned in my august presence, for I mean never to die, and I do not see why anyone else should pass away—always excepting two or three for whom I am keeping a poisoned arrow up my sleeve. After all, death is only a parting, at least for elect ones like me who have found cinnamon salvation. You may or may not have to contend with creepy-crawly creatures after I have attended your obsequies. (How I do salve your feelings with a phrase!—a poor one, but my very own.) Silly donkeys,—now I seem to say good-bye, I am excused if I insult, for you cannot kick against evanescent pricks—do understand once for all that I will never lose you. Poor, wretched blighters, do you imagine for a single instant that I should have been tolerated so long if I had not rejoiced your hearts, provoked you to perturbation, raised you to rhapsody? Newspapers, alas, are commercial enterprises. Fare them well! Let them eat coke.

Hornet's Beauty.

Let us cheer up. Let us greet the rising sun with greedy grins and deep draughts of gin-sling. What on earth do you want to know? Where are you? Must I dream for you the winner of the Manchester November Handicap? Do remember that I have done my utmost to keep you busy, if not edified. Have I not grudgingly bestowed upon you vague, illusory, unsatisfactory glimpses of the Beloved? Have I not taught you the magic of Maoris, besought you to eschew foreigners, led you to linger over lofty lucubrations? Have I not been the finest exponent of my language since Johnson and Bacon and Disraeli and (sublime impertinence) Voltaire? O ho, the Mariners' Club! What will they think of me, if I ever come up for election in the process of being banished westward and ever west?

I really must persuade Father Vaughan or some Major with a confiding kink to lend me his pulpit or his bayonet and permit me to tease your long ears with penultimate compliments. Grammercy, let us prey. Would it not be well to dream winners for you and start an office as commission agent to a gaping, groping, good-for-nothing multitude? Give me a mug's chance.

Milch-Veal.

The great charm of saying good-bye is that we never mean it. If you are really a nice person like myself, you may always rest assured of fatted calf when you come home with the milk. The tables of the rich may groan with viands, but they will never growl at me.

The Ghastliness of Good-bye.

Gorgeous, gracious, beautiful, supreme, august Beloved, let me ask myself in all the solemn serenity, all the sweet severity of night, what would happen if I were suddenly deprived of Thee. Of course I should go mad, take to drink, hurl myself from the topmost precipices. No, that is the sudden inspiration of incomplete despair. I speak as a fool or the apostle Paul—which is the same thing, for he pretended to despise women and had singular ideas about their hats. His disgrace might be another story, but for the fact that I am talking (through your hats) about farewell.

Vale!

Now let me put to you a really very truly ugly Plantagenet kind of proposition. What would any of you do if you awoke one foggy morning and began to realise painfully, with groping brains and trembling hands, that you would never see or hear any more of your dear old friend Jim Crow? Would you not hie to the nearest public house and call for brown brandy, heedless of the morrow's remorse?

Scotch Mist.

The worst of all this is that no one is ever really missed. Suppose that I had staggered to bed in my unregenerate days and come to fearful grief in the pursuit of imaginary cockroaches, my only conclusion would have been that I was an unsober, ungraceful, unimaginative donkey, who preferred Bacchus to Venus. As though anyone could.

Stirrup-cups.

Let me be your toastmaster for once, and pray you to charge your glasses. Mine only contains a small lemon, but I quaff it in your honour with just as much enthusiasm as though it were what I overheard a pugilist call "a tumbler of the bubbly." What strange bedfellows, as Frank Harris used to say.

Listen!

I can almost suspect your comments. You probably read the rhodomontade of the person who thinks he is funny while pretending to feel our swelled heads. So I thought I would play up to his suggestions. Having duly exasperated you, I want you to think very seriously about the sadness of good-bye. Originally, the word may have been a pious ejaculation, a commendation to the Creator in view of the perils of mediæval travel. But it has never attained to the sublime, scented, almost sensuous harmony of the gracious "God bless you," whispered in a dove-way by the Beloved. Nay, an abrupt good-bye may approach to an insult. When popping-eyed persons outstay their welcome, we point to their umbrellas and say "Good-bye, sorry you can't stop." Such, however, shall never be my attitude towards my faithful followers. Through good report and evil, in moments of sorrow and hours of joy, during battle and tempest, even when oceans of trouble well-nigh swamped my buoyant bark, my darkness was lightened, my sunshine was intensified, by thoughts of all those indulgent readers who have proved themselves my friends.

Bull-Bull.

If ever the summons of my Sovereign or (better still) the Will of the People should enlarge my responsibilities, if the call of the camel-bell should again lead me out to wander in the wilderness of Sin, if it were decreed by Fate that my bishoprick should be taken by another, my gloom might almost rival yours. After me the deluge, perhaps. But I believe in resurrection here as well as hereafter. As the poet sang, "There shall be bulbuls." And yet, and yet my heart might sink within me as I gripped your horny hands without full certitude that I should see your unknown faces, feel your inspiring aura again. Do I say "unknown"? How pedantic a concession to exact terminology. Have I not lived with you, made merry with you, wrestled with you, brought nectar and ambrosia to your mental board for over half a lustrum? To whom else have I exhibited such persistent indulgence, what others have been saturated with so many subtle satisfactions? I regard you as the children of my soul rather than as mere constant readers with spectacles and lamps. Boon companions of my cups and alcoves, fellow-travellers over the moors and crags and swamps and deserts of this troublesome life, chief if not only mourners at the funerals of my hopes; welcome, gracious guests at the coronation of my desires, All Hail! I clasp you one and all (for that is the good old Cornish motto) to my manly breast, I cover you with apostolic blessings, I will not leave you comfortless. "God is merciful, go and drink wine."

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## OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

**To the Chief Constable, Halifax, Yorkshire.**

Dear Chief,—Ever heard of a gentleman named Ostler?—William Henry Ostler, I believe, Chairman of the Education Committee, or the Society for the Provision of Stockings to Necessitous Nippers, or something of that kind? In any case, what I want to tell you about William Henry is this. His penetrating orbs have been fixed on your policemen for a long time, apparently, and he has come to the conclusion—more in sorrow than in anger, I believe—that they have nothing to do except stand at street corners. Now, argues William Henry, contemplating this solemn and lamentable problem, why not give them a job? Why not make them do something for their money? Why not employ their energies in the public service? In fine and in short, why not set them to knitting stockings?

I daresay your first impulse is to jump away from this idea and go and sit in the seat of the scornful. It probably raises your hair with extreme suddenness. Yet when you consider the proposition of William Henry coldly and calmly and apart from prejudice, I think you will agree with me that the spectacle of the Halifax police knitting stockings at street corners in the execution of their duty is one to stir the blood of Yorkshiremen. Still, I am bound to say that in my opinion William Henry hardly goes far enough; I do not see why they should not take off their silent boots and knit their own darned stockings, or darn their own knitted stockings, which at present are a conglomeration of holes in a state of precarious adhesion. I shall tell William Henry that I have heartily recommended his suggestion to you, and advise him to call at the police office to discuss it with you in more elaborate detail. John Bull.

---

**To the Rev. W. M. Smith, Vicar of Walkden, near Manchester.**

My Dear Friend and Brother,—Peace be with you. I hear you have been preaching, from the Isaiahan text, "Here am I; send me," against the Sunday concerts which are being given in Walkden for the entertainment of the community. Except that they are held in the Town Hall at a time when, in your opinion, people should be hearkening to yourself and your curate, it is not clear in what respect they justify your violent pulpiteering. Nor am I convinced, my dear brother, that a professional person who conducts a harmless gathering in one sphere is entitled to throw bricks at a professional person who conducts a harmless gathering in another. I can understand your jealousy, of course: the Sunday concerts over the way interfere with your collections. Even so, my dear vicar, what is the matter with you and the curate and the church and the precept and the practice that all of you together cannot compete with a Sunday concert?

Your sermon was vulgar and offensive, and liable to provoke a breach of the peace. By some twisting of the text I perceive you were able to suggest that it was for you to send the Walkden people where you wanted them to go and not they to send you where you didn't. Therefore, said you, "Go and tell these people they are desecrating the Sabbath. Make their lives a burden to them until they have altered their ways. Let them have no peace either by night or day until they have wiped out their transgression. Have nothing to do with them. Go to their houses—you know their addresses—rap at the knocker till the knocker comes off. Send letter after letter or postcard after postcard through the post to them. Pull the bills off the walls and never mind the consequences." As a result, I cannot say what will happen. Possibly after somebody has been round to pull the bills off the walls and the knockers off the doors, somebody else will go round to the vicarage and pull the nose off the vicar.

The fact of it is, my dear professor, you know not what you do; wherefore I will tell you. You are inflaming the passions of the world, the flesh, and the devil. You are conjuring up the forces of anarchy. You are inciting to assault and battery and social disorder. For these reasons I beg you to put a guard on your tongue; it is probably the tongue Paul had in mind when he described it as an unruly member. You bigots will never convince people that you are half as good as you think you are, or that they are a quarter as wicked as you think they are. John Bull.

**To A. W. Willmer, Esq., J.P., Mayor of Birkenhead.**

My Dear Mr. Mayor,—As you presided over the recent meeting of the Town Council when the appointment of Ferries Manager was made, I think you ought to know that in the opinion of a very large number of people in your town, not only the selection itself, but the methods of selection engineered by the Committee, is open to the strongest criticism. In all such matters, I allow, of course, for the natural disappointment of unsuccessful candidates; but they have undoubtedly been scurvily treated. The position of manager of the Birkenhead Ferries is sufficiently lucrative to make it attractive to a large number of people in every way competent by practical experience to undertake it, and when the advertisement of the Town Clerk appeared in the Press there were, in fact, a large number of competent applicants.

The applicants were put to considerable expense and inconvenience in preparing and printing their testimonials; in some cases they actually stayed in Birkenhead in order to place themselves at the call of the Committee. Eventually they were thinned down to twenty, and subsequently to the seven who were instructed to appear before the members. I believe four of these were captains of long experience in the merchant service, one a naval lieutenant who also holds a Board of Trade certificate, one an engineer of many years' service with the Birkenhead Ferries, and one, Mr. Legge, the Ferries Accountant. *Entre nous*, I wonder whether Mr. Legge was the selected candidate immediately there was a vacancy—and before the advertisement was issued. At any rate, the Committee selected him for recommendation to the Town Council.

I do not know how it occurs to ratepayers of Birkenhead, Mr. Mayor, but I can as little imagine the purser's clerk being competent to take charge of the *Titanic* or the *Olympic* as I can imagine a book-keeper like Mr. Legge being the best of all possible men to advise on steamship boilers and other machinery, supervise the practical and technical operations of modern engineering workshops, and, in a sentence, carry on the general requirements of the Birkenhead Ferries as set forth in the advertisement. Personally, if I were a member of the Council, I should no more think of voting for his appointment to this post than I should think of taking my boots to be soled and heeled at the butcher's or my never-mention-thems to be patched at the grocer's. If the Ferries Committee thought that a book-keeper is the most sensible man "to have general superintendence of the passenger and goods traffic" of the Birkenhead Ferries, "the repair of the steamers, their machinery and boilers, and all other departments of the Ferries Establishment," why did they not so draft their advertisement that other accountants would have been encouraged to compete for the post?

Granting that Mr. Legge did, as one of your local papers is inspired to explain, "render signal service during the strike," what on earth has that to do with the matter? I can only express my regret that the Council did not refer back the recommendation for the submission of the names of two or three other candidates. This was undoubtedly their duty, if public interests are to be adequately served and guarded. John Bull.

---

**Clough, House of Commons.**

Observe you have again been assaulting a political opponent, and that you have again apologised. Congratulations on omitting all reference this time to the "lowly Jesus." Bull.

---

**Yin Chang, Minister of War, Peking.**

Notice heavy fall China in Wuchang. Also begin to think you are rather cracked. Bull.

---

**Rosebery, Dalmeny, Scotland.**

Agree with you ought to be great national bonfire of books. Wire whether you intend throwing on one or two of yours. Bull.

---

**Mary Bull, Everywhere.**

Hearty and loving greetings on anniversary of *Mrs. Bull*. I have never known a youngster make such progress—it's a lovely child! John.

# THE PARLIAMENTARY MACHINE.

*(The Government have decided to take the whole of the time of the House for the rest of the Session.)*

**AT WORK AGAIN.**

# JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

By Verax.

### Irregular—Waiting for the Morocco Settlement.

Although the outlook appears more cheerful and there is a good undertone in the stock markets, we are still suffering from the nervousness of Continental centres, chiefly Paris and Brussels. The French banks are hoarding gold, and discouraging speculation pending the final settlement of the Morocco question with Germany. Once that out of the way, Tripoli or Chinese affairs would no longer stand in the way of a general revival, and Paris must turn a buyer, where it is now a seller. The weakness in Paris has more especially weighed upon the *Kaffir Circus*, every untoward development in which is being magnified, and just now the market here looks for unfavourable interim dividends by the *Goldfields and Rand Mines, Ltd. Oceana Developments* have advanced to 6s. 9d. to 7s. on the favourable position outlined last week. *Rubber and Oil* shares are also under a cloud and Continental support is altogether absent. With the exception of *Turks, Japanese and German Threes, Foreign Government securities* have been fairly maintained, apart from those of *Spanish American Republics*, such as *Guatemala Externals*, while *Peru Prop.* have lost part of their rise. The payment of the interest on *Guayaquil* and *Quito First Mortgage Bonds*—now quoted 61½—also still trembles in the balance. *Consols* are up to 78⅞, apparently on averaging purchases by small investors and in the absence of further liquidation. *Canadian Pacifics* have hardened on renewed hopes that another issue of shares will be made some day, thus providing another bonus. *American Rails* have at times been strongly supported in Wall Street, but the Trust campaign prevents prices holding. Another rise in *Antofagasta Def.*, one of my favourites, has put the price 10 points higher at 149½, while amongst *Argentine Rails, Buenos Ayres Western* and *Central Argentine* are advancing, as I said they would. A sharp rise in Tin to £191½ for cash and three months has been one of the features and should benefit Tin mines, while Copper is also up to 56⅛, but I am afraid that a further reduction in the visible supply will be prevented by fresh increases in the American production. *Rhodesians* have lost part of their rise owing to the weakness of the neighbouring market, but *Cam and Motor* are up at 24s. 9d., and there is every prospect of the other mines to which I have drawn attention rising to a higher level. An *African World* cable from Buluwayo foreshadows an early boom in land interests in Rhodesia, and it is absurd under these circumstances that bear raids should be made on *Amalgamated Props.* (which holds most important land and mining assets), because this board have acquired additional valuable new assets against a further issue of 711,384 shares (£180,000), the special settlement for which has been put off for a month. The present is an excellent opportunity for averaging at 5s. per share. *Mexico Mines of El Oro* are up at 6⅞, and *Del Monte (Mexico)* are firm on a cable stating high assays from the Belen mine.

### Home Rails for Investment—Yield and Prospects.

The market for *Home Railway* stocks has received the report of the Royal Commission favourably, but the agitators amongst the men's leaders are up in arms, as they fear that their occupation is going. Of course they may stir up new strife, but, on the other hand, it remains to be seen what action the Government will take, so as, if possible, to prevent future railway strikes. Prices are generally firmer, the *South-Eastern and Chatham* stocks having benefited more especially from the Kent coal rumours. The yield is a very handsome one, as will be seen from the following table, which has for its basis the dividends paid for the two last years—viz., June to December, 1910, and January to June, 1911 :—

| | Dividend p.c. per ann. 1910-11. | Highest. 1911. | Lowest. | Present price. | p.c. | Yield per ann. £ s. d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| London, Brighton Ord. | 5½ | 123 | 111½ | 113 | | 5 2 9 |
| London Brighton Def. | *5 | 113½ | 93 | 95 | | 5 5 3 |
| South Eastern Pref. | 6 | 126½ | 117 | 116 | | 5 3 6 |
| London Chatham 1st Pref. | 4½ | 94 | 83 | 85 | | 5 6 0 |
| Great Eastern | 3½ | 79½ | 65 | 66 | | 5 2 3 |
| North Western | 6½ | 151 | 136½ | 134½ | | 5 3 6 |
| Great Western | 6 | 136 | 118 | 120 | | 5 0 0 |
| Midland Deferred | 3½ | 79½ | 65½ | 69 | | 5 12 3 |
| North Eastern | 6½ | 139 | 124½ | 124 | | 5 0 9 |
| Great Northern Def. | *2½ | 57½ | 45½ | 49½ | | 5 12 3 |
| Lancashire and Yorkshire | 4½ | 104½ | 90 | 92 | | 5 3 3 |
| North Staffordshire | 4½ | 99½ | 90 | 92 | xd | 6 3 3 |
| South Western Ord. | 6½ | 199½ | 133½ | 136 | | 4 11 3 |
| London, Tilbury and Southend | 6½ | 151½ | 126 | 146 | | 4 5 6 |
| Metropolitan Cons. | 1½ | 55½ | 39½ | 43 | | 4 3 3 |
| Metrop. Surplus Lands | 2½ | 70½ | 63½ | 66 | | 4 7 0 |
| Met. District 4½% 1st Pref. | 4½ | 91½ | 84 | 87 | | 5 3 6 |
| Great Central Pref. 1889 | 4 | 90 | 82½ | 84 | | 4 12 0 |
| City and South London | 1½ | 36½ | 26½ | 29½ | | 5 18 9 |

* For year—estimated.

The losses through the strikes are being turned into increases now. Thus the *North-Western* has succeeded in establishing one of £29,000, and the *Midland* one of £20,000. The decrease of the *Lancashire and Yorkshire* is reduced to £12,222; but the *North-Eastern* has still the large decrease of £78,818, and the *Great Western* one of £38,000, these having suffered most from the strikes. The *Great Eastern* has already established an increase of £34,600, the *Great Northern* £37,600, the *South-Eastern* £39,118, the *Metropolitan District* £7,095. The *Brighton*, however, has still a decrease of £6,722 to make up. The *London and South-Western* has now an increase of £2,300. Upon the whole, therefore, the outlook is by no means unfavourable, especially in view of the big yields, which are really larger than they appear on the face of them, as three months' dividends have already accrued.

### Harmony Developments' Prospects.

The interest created by the splendid results obtained on the *Shamva* and *Cam and Motor* properties is calling attention to other mines possessing reefs of great width and good values, and in this connection *Harmony Developments* have been inquired for on the strength of the Coblentz Mine, which embraces an area of some 1,078 claims and has a strike on the reef formation of nearly two miles. The Coblentz formation, like the Shamva, is an extensive outcropping series of hills rising to a height of 600 feet, upon which a large amount of tunnelling has been done, Mr. Bruce-Marriott reporting widths of 24 ft. and 30 ft., giving assays of 17.3 dwts. and 19.6 dwts. respectively. The *Harmony Development Company's* issued capital is only about £50,000 (with £150,000 in reserve for additional working capital), which at present market prices represents less than £40,000. The company owns the sole mining prospecting rights over eight farms (including the Coblentz), of an aggregate area of over 56,000 acres, and the *Harmony Development* shares of 2s. each, fully paid, stand at only 1s. 3d.-1s. 6d.

### Revival in Nile Valley Gold.

I have always anticipated that sooner or later some sensational news would come to hand from the property of the Nile Valley Gold Mining Co., Ltd., and this is what is now happening. Owing to the very hot season in the desert, the mine was for a short time partly closed down, but development work is now proceeding, and the full staff is available. The developments now reported are so important that the Board has come to the decision to despatch an engineer to consult with the manager as to the best method of laying out the new workings, and this is no doubt the proper course to take. The mine manager has sent a report, according to which he is pushing the development on the new discovery, that very rich rock was then being raised from No. 9 shaft, and that the winze, which is being sunk from No. 2 Level, was down 16 ft. in splendid ore at the time the report was sent. As good values are being maintained at No. 10 shaft, where sinking has been resumed, the prospects of the Nile Valley Company seem to be particularly bright just now. It certainly appears to be a promising gamble, as the shares are round about 6s. only, while they touched £11 and £12 when the former boom was on, and if the new discovery should continue as rich as it is described in the latest report, those who acquire the shares at the present price might find a little deal very remunerative, and at all events they would get a fair run for their money.

### Trouble Still Besets Rubbers—The Linggi Disappointment—More about Soconusco.

The rubber share market is finding that troubles do not come singly. In the first place, there is the expected reduction of the *Linggi* rubber output for the current year by no less than 70,000 lbs., which is attributed to the drought. This shows how much value was to be placed on recent reports that the prolonged drought had broken up, and it also makes one more than usually cautious in accepting estimates of future production, which are not likely to err on the side of prudence. Then there is the effect of the upheaval in China, which might draw away a good many Chinese labourers from the Malaya rubber plantations and tin mines. Rubber itself is firm enough, but business is very restricted owing to a prolonged interruption to the Manaos cable. The *Linggi* episode has brought in a good many sellers of these shares which have been down to 33s., and now stand at 33s. 6d., but *Valiambrosa* keep fairly firm at 25s. 3d. *Anglo-Malay* at 15s. 6d., *Consolidated Malay* at 14s. 6d., etc. By the way, some people are beginning to get anxious regarding the *Anglo-Malay* second interim dividend now due, while it is understood that the *Malacca* directors' report will not be issued until the arrival here of Mr. Lyon.

one of the directors, who is now on his way home from a visit to the property. The rubbish concerns are now being found out one after another. I do not, of course, say that the *Soconusco* belongs to this category, but it has undoubtedly proved a great disappointment, and the vendors offer to make a surrender of shares. The company, moreover is in want of further capital, which it is proposed to raise in the form of debentures. The directors have accepted the appointment of a committee, who, it may be hoped, will be assisted by independent expert advice, otherwise their recommendations can have but little value.

### Latest Maikop News Gives Hope for the Future—Market, however, still Suffering from Financial Troubles—Another Maikop Fountain.

My faith in the ultimate future for the leading companies on the Maikop oilfield has been strengthened by the important news that the *Maikop Enem Company* has struck oil in well No. 3 at 287 feet, and that this has resulted in the *Maikop Producers* starting a well on their plot 400, adjoining the Enem. It may be presumed that similar developments will follow the present policy of the concerted deep-boring movement, as soon as the first tangible results thereof come to hand. Therefore, I consider that I have at heart the true interests of shareholders in such companies as the *Black Sea, Maikop Victory, Anglo-Maikop, London and Maikop*, etc., when I advise them to resolutely disregard the present market conditions, which arise largely from financial troubles, and to look forward to better times when the clouds have rolled by. Since writing the above, a further cable has been received from the Enem Company on the Maikop field, stating that the new fountain is spouting strongly, yielding 15,000 poods daily. This again demonstrates the possibilities of the Maikop oilfield, and should strengthen the market for leading Maikop shares. Generally, the oil share market has not been happy, and has lost some of the buoyancy which recently characterised it. The Bears have been at work, and have circulated rumours of the failure in Glasgow of a big operator heavily committed in oil shares; but this report, so far as I can gather, is without foundation. What is of more consequence is that, agreement or no agreement, prices of burning oils are rising in Scotland, the *Shell* and *Standard* groups having simultaneously advanced the same, and a corresponding rise in bulk oil is the obvious sequel thereto. Under the circumstances I should not be surprised to see a fresh upward movement in *Shell Transports*, after the present spell of liquidation has been surmounted, although these shares are too hazardous for the ordinary operator to dabble in. *Spies* have been fairly well held throughout, and now stand at 32s. 6d., while *Lobitos* have been bought on every reaction, and are firm at 21s. 6d. *Burmah Oils* have declined to 3 9-16, pending the forthcoming dividend announcement, although no change is really expected. The *Ural Caspian* report fell flat, so much so, in fact, that the shares have gradually fallen away to 1. *Oil Trust of Galicia* are better at 1, on the news that the Viktor well has started production at the rate of 10 tons daily. The first directors' report of the *General Oil and Finance Corporation* has made its appearance, and really I think that those people who have attacked it are most unreasonable. Surely the directors could not be expected to control the course of markets, which has been all against them, and has prevented them from realising their holdings to good advantage. The point is this: Are the companies in which the Corporation is interested sound and of a promising character? All the indications go to show that they are, and, therefore, the company should eventually come out on top, although for the present it has no option but to nurse its assets. I consider that the shares are worth nearer par than the present quotation of ⅛ dis I hear rather good accounts of *Maikop Premier*, and the present price of 5s. per £1 share, fully paid, is attractive under the circumstances. They might double their price very quickly.

### 18 Per Cent. Dividend from the Knotless Veilholder.

In last week's issue I said a few words under the heading "A Remarkable Money-making Little Company"—viz., the Knotless Veilholda, Limited, which is paying dividends of 18 per cent. on its 10s. shares, fully paid, as a preference dividend, the Company's article being a remarkable success. I am not surprised to hear that the paragraph has brought numerous communications to the secretary of the Knotless Veilholda, Limited, 8 and 9, Philip Lane, London, E.C., thus showing that an 18 per cent. dividend is, after all, very attractive. Under the circumstances the new shares just now available will soon be absorbed, and those who wish to have a look in will have to hurry up.

## JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL LETTER-BOX.

*(1) Letters containing inquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, John Bull, 9, Copthall Buildings, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but as tokens of good faith Anonymous communications will be disregarded.*

*(2) Correspondents should adopt either a nom-de-plume, or mention initials, under which the replies will appear in the paper. The stocks or subjects inquired about should also be numbered.*

*(3) Replies are made only in the ordinary way through the columns of this journal under the above heading, and not by letter.*

*(4) In no circumstances will the proprietors undertake the sale or purchase of stocks or shares.*

*(5) If inquirers wish it, for transacting business, the names and addresses of respectable firms of stockbrokers, members of the London Stock Exchange, will be supplied to them, in which case a stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed.*

**(6) A Postal Order for 1/- must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.**

Outside Brokers.—S. E. C.—I should not have advised you to deal with McKinley, Alexander and Sons, and as regards the old promise that the firm would pay something through Mr. C. W. Silversides, of Terminus Chambers, Holborn Viaduct, I have not heard of anyone who has received anything from Mr. Silversides. If he has any assets to distribute, it is certainly time that he should do so F. G. S. (East Yorkshire).—This is an outside concern, and respectable enough, but their system is to get you to sell your own stocks, and replace them by their securities. These may be substantial, but in many instances they are difficult of realisation when you want to sell. I have handed in your application as a member of the "John Bull League." G. T. B. (Upper Egypt) (1) Same reply. You should deal through a member of the Stock Exchange. (2) No option but to hold these rubber shares for the present. (3) By all means, keep National Railway of Mexico for a further rise. Investor.—You are no doubt aware that, as I have already stated in a reply last week, the proprietor of T. Moreton Harris, outside dealers, of Birmingham, is being prosecuted by the police. In such cases there is rarely any money to be got back. It is a case of locking the stable after the steed is stolen.

Hamburg Lottery Tickets.—W. L. L. (Cardiff).—Lottery tickets are not dealt in by London stockbrokers. In fact, this is illegal, as lotteries are illegal here, and I cannot therefore help you. These tickets are usually offered by intermediaries who send touting letters to this country.

Land Investment.—Sunstar.—I do not think you can sell to advantage at present, and the longer you keep property like this, the better is your chance of making money.

Co-operative Trusts.—Miss E. M. (Clitheroe).—I strongly advise you to have nothing whatever to do with such combinations. If you buy the Bonds by themselves, there is not so much risk. In these combinations, you have really no guarantee but that of these people, who have no standing. The documents are returned. Barkis (Norfolk).—Same reply.

Stopped Cheque.—W. G B. (Lyme Regis).—Once having given the cheque for a special purpose, you have no right to stop it, unless there is fear of theft, and especially as it had already been negotiated to another person, you are liable. You should have made up your mind in the first instance, and before parting with your cheque.

Building Society.—G. O. P.—I have for a long time advised my readers to withdraw such deposits, and in the case in question you should do your utmost to get the money out. Strictly speaking, they are entitled to notice, but you should keep them up to the mark with the repayments. It is certainly an impertinence on their part to ask if "your aunt had an account in another bank from which the sum in question could be withdrawn instead."

Trust.—J. H. (West Hartlepool).—I do not like this concern or its entourage, and advise you to have nothing whatever to do with it.

Insurance Shares.—H. M.—Under the circumstances, it might be advisable to cut your loss, especially in view of the uncalled liability on these shares.

Racing Shares.—S. B.—I do not pretend to be a judge of Racing shares, or of their prospects in the racing world From a financial point of view, the shares in question would not be worth a speculation, and, moreover, there is no market in the same.

Jungle Share.—Dent.—The recent collapse has hit a good many Companies hard, in all departments, and they have by no means recovered their equilibrium yet (1) I know nothing bad about the Board. (2) I cannot tell yet, but this is always possible. (3) This might be advisable under present circumstances. (4) Yes.

Argonite Non-Flammable Celluloid.—A Shareholder.—In the first place, you should learn the lesson of disregarding the offers of shares made through the post. Respectable stockbrokers do not resort to such devices, especially offering shares by post-card. In the second place, there is very little information about the Company, and no market for the shares. Perhaps the Secretary of the Company will deign to enlighten me upon the present position, for your benefit and that of other shareholders?

Kaffir Share.—V. S.—This mine is not doing well, and I cannot advise you to average at present. Much must depend upon a general improvement in the Kaffir market.

East Hants Gas Co.—Cavendo.—There is very little information available regarding this Company, and I am not at all sanguine as to the outlook. Perhaps the Secretary will tell me whether the rumour of a coming reconstruction is correct.

Houlder Line.—J. A. S. (Oldham).—There is a lot of people in the same position who would like to know the present position of affairs, and when the meeting of shareholders will be held. I would advise the shareholders to make a united demand for this information, failing which they might resort to legal action, but singly, I am afraid you can do very little, or nothing.

Rubbers.—Stoney.—The property has certainly disappointed expectations, but it would not be worth while selling now. As far as I can gather, the drought is still affecting operations, and as soon as this is broken, matters should greatly improve. One of the Victims.—I am afraid that the Essequibo Rubber and Tobacco Estates has proved an addled egg, and I cannot, therefore, hold out any hope of its ever improving its fortunes, at any rate, under present conditions.

Paris.—All these Kaffir and Rhodesian mines have been adversely affected by the general decline in these markets, and have consequently suffered through no fault of their own I do not think that prices will go much lower now, and it should be worth while holding all for an improvement. There is no doubt but that the market is greatly oversold, and that it would not take much of a buying movement to set it going again upward.

Investments.—Sottobosco.—(1) London General Omnibus Cumulative 5 per cent Preference shares of £10 each, at 9, should suit you. (2) Those mentioned under No 1 would be preferable, under the circumstances. (3) When investing in Foreign Government Bonds, it is advisable to spread the investment as much as possible. Therefore, besides Argentine 1886 Loan, you might put some money into, for instance, Japanese Four per Cents, and Johannesburg Municipal 4 per cent.

Industrials.—Max.—You would certainly be well-advised to take your profit on the first-mentioned Industrial shares, but I think it would be better, instead of putting all your money in speculative concerns like electric theatres, to reinvest in something else. Consult my articles, or if you tell me what dividend you expect, I will try and name something special for you.

*(A large number of replies are unavoidably held over.)*

## INSURANCE REPLIES.

*Insurance Enquiries should be addressed Insurance Editor, 93, Long Acre, W.C.*

Prudential Assurance Company.—Bitten (Harlington).—The whole transaction is very disgraceful, but you do not tell us who signed the proposal form for the new policies. Were they taken out in your wife's name? M. A. C. (Cork).—You should get the policy properly assigned. F. D. (Liverpool).—Upon the facts you state the policy is illegal, but you have no claim that you can enforce. Endowment Policy (Londle).—If you read John Bull you must surely know by this time that in our opinion those who wish to insure would do well not to go to the Prudential. Justice (Bangor).—The facts you state are strange, and show great irregularity somewhere, but we do not think in themselves they would entitle you to the return of the premiums. Let us see the correspondence. We return the policy. J. H. (Streatham).—Let us see the correspondence. F. F. (Thornton Heath).—We do not see how the company is to blame. If you had grievances which you found the management slow to take up there were ways and means by which you could have enforced attention without resorting to the course you took—namely, the with-holding of collections. We return your papers. W. H. (Warrington).—You should report the matter to head-quarters. T. W. (Leicester).—The policy is illegal, but the company may pay at death. W. G. (Aberdeen).—You do not tell us if the policy is made out in your daughter's name, and if she signed the proposal form. F. C. (Leyton).—As you are so near the completion of payments we should finish them.

Liverpool Victoria Friendly Society.—Dumps (Kingston-on-Thames).—We think you must have mistaken the agent. Ask him again and let us know what he says.

Provident Association of London.—T. W. A. (Hatfield).—We cannot be of assistance to you in disposing of your bond, and do not know how you can do it except by advertising. C. M. (New Brighton).—We really cannot see what you have to complain of. You say that you took out your bond in 1889 and ceased to pay upon it in 1890. Surely it is unreasonable to suppose that 21 years after a bond has lapsed the association will consent to repay the premiums paid upon a document which at no time of its existence entitled to a surrender value. C. A. T. (Liverpool).—As to the Provident Homes certificate, we do not see how you could recover the premiums paid, or a surrender value, having regard to the comparatively short time you have been paying in. We return your papers.

National Old Age Pension Trust.—H. S. H. (Dartford).—We have repeatedly, year after year, warned our readers to have nothing to do with this concern.

Car and General Assurance Corporation.—J. B. (Brighton).—If you allow your policy to lapse you cannot complain of the company refusing to accept further payments. We return your card.

Liverpool Victoria Insurance Corporation.—W. H. N. (Sunderland).—The figures you quote—Premium income £111,887, commission agents £25,878, management expenses £43,520, speak for themselves.

Century Assurance Company.—Cardinal (Cheddar).—We know of no reason why you should not do so.

United Kingdom Temperance and General Provident Institution.—J. P. F. (Whitby).—You have omitted to send us the policy. Why not apply to the head office, where you will be told at once what the surrender value is?

London and Provincial Assurance Company.—Blackjack (Cirencester).—Our information is that the company is doing less well.

British Key and Property Registry.—A. U. K. (Stafford).—The manager is quite right in saying that this company has not the power to do accident business, but they present their subscribers with accident assurance coupons guaranteed by another company having the necessary powers, and they pay that company a premium to provide the benefits specified in the coupons. Unfortunately the companies with which the British Key and Property Registry have done business in this way have been concerns of straw, which have gone into liquidation to the loss of policy holders who have looked to them for payment. The company has now made arrangements with another company with which they will be able to fulfil any obligations they accept, but it seems to us that you are entitled to hold the British Key and Property Registry liable in your particular matter. We return the papers.

Economic Marine Assurance Society.—F. C. (Odessa).—We do not think you could sustain your claim against the Assurance Company. As pointed out to you in the letter from the management of October 3rd, the assurance is warranted free from particular average, "unless the vessel be stranded," as named therein, and in the absence of evidence that any of these warranties have been broken, there is, of course, no liability to pay under the policy. We return the documents.

Safest Assurance Company.—W. (Southampton).—There are many insurance companies which for your purpose are as safe as one another. You say you are already insured in the Equitable. It is an excellent Society, and you cannot do better than remain in it.

National Benefit Trust.—Stapleton (Barrow-in-Furness).—You have given us many excellent reasons why the bonds of this society are not the kind you want, but your inquiries are belated. You say that you did not see a prospectus before joining, and now, after paying £68 5s., upon examining the conditions under which the bond is held, you find you are under a complete misapprehension. It is impossible for us to help you, or anyone else who will not take the trouble to ascertain the conditions upon which he is joining a society. We cannot see upon what ground you could hope to succeed if you appealed to the courts upon a claim for the recovery of the £68 5s.

Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada.—High Park (New Mills).—It is a good company, but there has been criticism of the way in which certain of its funds are invested. The American company you name is probably the best of the American offices doing business in this country.

Surrender Value.—E. R. (Buxton).—You do not tell us the name of the company nor the character of the policy. Send us these particulars.

Status of Company.—Manager (Dublin).—It is not in the front rank.

National Mutual Life Association of Australia.—J. W. B. (South Shields).—Yes, certainly.

Liverpool and London and Globe Assurance Company.—S. N. (Birmingham). It is in the front rank.

Royal Exchange Assurance Corporation.—G. E. (Atherstone).—Yes. In our judgment it is "one of the soundest and best-managed Companies" in England.

Excelsior Assurance Society.—H. O. (Sevensisters).—The answer is in the negative.

Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society.—J. E. (Sanderstead).—The result is, of course, very disappointing, but we do not know that we can add much to what we have already said in reply to complaints of other correspondents. No doubt, as the Secretary says, the unsatisfactory result is largely due to the fall in the rate of interest earned by the Society, a fall which commenced soon after your policy was taken out. We return your papers.

Wesleyan and General Assurance Society.—T. W. (Audley).—The payment of £1 0s. 8d. to you, after you have paid in £11 13s., as representing all that you are entitled to is farcical, but you seem to have allowed your premiums to fall into arrears, and when a policy holder does that he is pretty much at the mercy of the Company.

**It is requested that all letters sent us relating to the validity of policies held in the Prudential be marked on the envelope "Prudential." Owing to the thousands of enquiries which have been received, some little delay in dealing with them is unavoidable, but every endeavour is being made to expedite answers.**

## IMAGINARY INTERVIEW.

By Walter Moore.

### MR. A. J. BALFOUR.

"Internecine strife is very common just now," I observed to Mr. Balfour the other day.

"You are right," he groaned, a far-away look in his eyes. "What with Portugal and China, the Labour unrest, and the threatening state of affairs in Ulster, the world seems thoroughly out of joint," I added.

"Er—what was that?" asked Mr. Balfour, arousing himself with an effort from his musing.

"I say, that what with Portugal and China——"

"Oh, yes, yes," interrupted Mr. Balfour, irritably; "I thought you were referring to the split in the Conservative party. That is the only thing that worries me just now. Our own troubles always seem greatest, you know."

"Then you seriously think——" I began.

"Don't ask me what I *think*," exclaimed Mr. Balfour. "The trouble is what I *know*. To think that after all these years of leadership I should be in danger of losing my position! To think that an old chap like Halsbury should have more influence with the young and more 'forward' members of my party than I have! It is hard; nay, more; it is humiliating."

I murmured something sympathetic.

"I can scarcely open a newspaper without finding the hateful letters B.M.G. staring me in the face," continued Mr. Balfour, a little wildly.

"B.M.G.," I repeated, questioningly; "what do they mean?"

"What do they mean?" repeated Mr. Balfour, untying his legs and starting up from his chair. "What do they mean? They are supposed to mean 'Balfour Must Go.' But Leo Maxse and the rest of the party traitors will very soon find out that they mean something very different from that."

And the agitated politician laughed a mirthless, merciless laugh.

"What, then, is your interpretation of the mystic initials?" I asked.

"Balfour Makes Good," replied Arthur, with more energy and determination than I would have given him credit for.

"Then both meanings are correct," I remarked; "for it is pretty certain you can never 'Make Good' until you 'Go'—until you go out from the maze of party politics in which you have been more or less aimlessly wandering for so many years."

"I don't quite follow you," murmured Mr. Balfour, looking a trifle mystified.

"Why should you trouble about retaining the leadership of the Conservative party, a party which, whatever its principles, aims, or programme, you must see doesn't stand an earthly chance of coming back to power for years, unless in the meantime war breaks out between England and Germany?"

"Our programme is Tariff Reform," retorted Mr. Balfour, hotly.

I managed to conceal a smile.

"And the preservation of our ancient Constitution in all its integrity," added Mr. Balfour.

"Surely you are qualifying for membership of the Halsbury Club," I remarked.

I thought Mr. Balfour looked a trifle ashamed.

"Now, my dear Sir," I said, "look at the situation in this way. The Young Turks of the Conservative party, egged on by Lord Halsbury (who certainly is old enough to know better), are something like the foolish vintner, who put new wine into old bottles. The result was bad for the wine, and not much better for the bottles. Arguing, then, from analogy, what is the use of putting a new leader in command of the old Conservative party? My advice to you is to ignore the intrigues of your rebellious followers; or, instead of allowing them to discharge you, to dismiss them, and range yourself alongside the earnest body of men who are working for the only system of government that will preserve our Empire alike from industrial upheavals, foreign encroachments, and the internal discord that arises from party spite. Business Government, which, being interpreted, meaneth the right man in the right place, is the ideal of the best brains in the United Kingdom to-day. Become a disciple of the movement, and you will be able to snap your fingers at all the Halsburys, Leo Maxses, and the rest. You will be on the right side."

"H'm," said Mr. Balfour, gazing intently at the ceiling.

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"If you win, you will be paid."

To the Secretary,
The National Share Exchange, 4t. Winchester Street, London, E.C.

Please forward me gratis and post free your booklet, "The Modern System of Money-Making," and other literature, which is a clear explanation of the methods which have enabled you to pay away over half-a-million pounds to clients.

J.B. 28/10/11.

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## LETTERS FROM JANE ANN.

*[Being communications from a young person to her friends and relations.]*

By Moore Anking.

The Durdles, Diddleston.

My Own Dearest Bert,—I don't know who it is, angel, but someone seems to enjoy lugging us apart. I don't see how we're to get together in family life, darling, not with me here and you at Tottenham.

Seems to me, pet, we're worse off than a couple of boxing men struggling for the championship, 'cause they do enjoy each other's company when they like and as long as they like, if its only in the newspapers.

I s'pose as the tract person says, Everything's for the best, though you don't seem to reelise it in this outlandish part, with no living pickshers, no fried fish, no whoop-la, nothing only fresh air and food for the mind.

You wouldn't hardly know what to do with yourself here, darling, it's that lively. There's one pub in the village but the landlord never expects anybody to call so he's seldom at home. He's a bit deaf, too, so by the time he finds a clean bucket and thoroughly understands what it is that's ordered, his customers travel on. In the hot weather a van comes round and takes 'em to the fever hospital. The landlord gets a pound a year for the use of his horse, that's what makes him so independent.

I don't reckon to know much about shaving, don't believe in it, but I remember father being a shorn lamb once a fortnight. I used to get the toffee or balloon, or whatever the barber person happened to be circu-lating to bring trade.

Here the men go once in three weeks on a Saturday night, there being plenty of hot water then on account of the barber's wife washing the youngsters. The barber only has one razor and sometimes he forgets the date and lends it to the vicar. Then the proceshun rubs its chin, says Everything's for the best and goes home to read Cheerful Stories of Sudden Death by the author of Better Days in Store, or Pig-keeping for Amachoors in the parish maggazeen.

Hair-cutting comes under the head of out-door relief, and is performed by the travelling agent of the Board of Agriculchur. Every time there's a case of swine fever, the Gov'nment send an expert and the people dance on the village green and get their hair cut and put the compensa-shun money in the bank for a rainy day.

And the post-offis, ducky, you ought to see the post-offis. Letters have to be shoved through a broken window in the front garden. After eight o'clock at night the person in charge puts a shutter across the hole and goes to bed. I generally go round to the back and shove mine through some other window if they happen to be important.

So you see what I mean, dear, it's not like being at home.

Lord Dumchuck met me out by myself the other morning. Nearly raised his hat to me and asked no end of questions. I hope, dear, you won't be jellus. I'm still yours. How it came to happen was like this. When I went to get baby from the person who's on night-duty, the housekeeper said, I'm afraid baby can't be taken out this morning, Jane, the darling's got the thrush.

So I said Well, ma'am, I don't see how baby could get the thrush and her only six weeks old come Friday. She ain't big enough yet to reach the cage.

When I told his lordship he said That's dashed funny, and then he laughed out just like you or I might. Not a bit of pride. Laughed just like anybody might if they felt that way inclined.

After that he said I s'pose, Jane, you have a bow. So I said Yes your lordship, buttons too, lots of 'em, hooks and eyes as well.

That seemed to make him change the subject, so he asked if I had a young man and was I fond of dogs and other animals.

Somehow your name got mentioned, Bert, and his lordship wanted to know if you went in for sport and if you were a likely lad and quick with your hands. I told him I thought you were quick enough with your hands, bit over-trained if anything, but I couldn't say for certain if you were likely, though in due course time would tell.

Then he asked what father's occupation was, so I told him father was an organist before we planted him. Of course, dear, I didn't tell him father's organ had wheels.

And now, dear, as I've quite filled this blessid col—— letter, don't forget to send me a nice long reply.

x x x Lovingly yours, x x x

Jane Ann.

## CHARACTER DELINEATIONS.

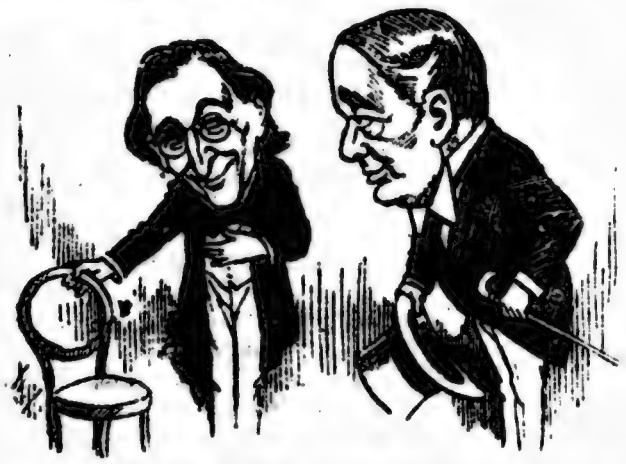
By Our Tame Phrenologist.

### XI.—LORD ROSEBERY.

Good-morning, sir . . . You wish for a head-reading? With pleasure. . . Your name? . . . Lord Rosebery? . . Pleased to meet your lordship . . . Take a seat.

Two outstanding features of your head strike me at the outset, sir; namely, the strong development of the faculties of *Form* and *Weight*. This will account for your interest and success in horse-racing. But, strange to say, the organ of *Hope*, usually so prominent in the head of a racing man, in your case is somewhat depressed.

In this fact I find an explanation of your pessimistic attitude towards political affairs. *Cautiousness* is conspicuous—rather over-developed, indeed—which would account for the indecision that has consistently marked your public career. The over-cautious pessimist, if you will permit me to say so, is about the least useful member of any corporate society. *Conscientiousness* is, if anything, too prominent. Extreme activity of this faculty is liable to stultify action. It causes too much introspection. No statesman worthy the name has ever been troubled with an excess of conscientiousness. It hinders the larger view so essential to statecraft.



Had nature treated you differently—more generously, shall I say?—in regard to the organs I have indicated, to what heights might you not have attained! For I have rarely enjoyed the privilege of examining a head so rich in what I may call the graceful talents. Your prominent eye denotes *Eloquence*, which, combined with the faculties of *Order*, *Time*, and *Tune*—all very pronounced in your case—mark you as an orator of exceptional powers, able to sway multitudes with the music of your speech.

But—alas! that I should have to say it!—your inherent pessimistic tendency discounts these splendid gifts. Still, you have some compensation in the fact that your bump of *Adhesiveness*, the invaluable faculty of friendship, shows you to be a man of whom one would expect it to be said, "With all his faults, we love him still."

Quite right, sir; it is a fine thing to win and hold the affectionate regard of our fellow creatures; but you will admit that the most hated often do the best work for humanity.

*Wit* and *Mirthfulness* you have in abundance; but the former is somewhat caustic, and the latter not a little grim. You are not troubled with overmuch *Self-esteem*, although many persons, mistaking your temperament, might put down your political aloofness to a sense of superiority. Your general character, according to my reading, refutes this unworthy aspersion.

Of *Human-nature* and *Benevolence* you have a notable share; consequently one is not surprised to find *Parental Love* and *Amativeness* fully represented.

Finally, sir, I would like to comment upon the remarkable prominence of your bump of *Individuality*. This is it, sir, immediately above the nose—this bony ridge. Few peers who sit on the cross benches lack this organ, but in your case it is conspicuous to a degree.

It has been a pleasure to run my fingers over your very original head, my lord. My only regret is that, for the sake of the nation, I was not able to speak more favourably of certain faculties. Quite right, sir, the perfect man has yet to be found.

Many thanks . . . Good day to your lordship.

# SCIENTIFIC EXPLANATION OF MR. SANDOW'S DELICIOUS HEALTH & STRENGTH COCOA.

## WONDERFUL SUSTAINING QUALITIES OF THE NEW "DRINK-DIET."

## GROCERS AND STORES EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTY IN COPING WITH PUBLIC DEMAND.

Mr. Sandow's new "Drink-Diet" Cocoa looks like becoming as popular and generally-used a beverage as tea and coffee—and for good reasons, too.

For the first time in its history, the cocoa bean is made to deliver up the maximum amount of its naturally rich store of nutriment.

Hitherto cocoa has never seriously rivalled tea and coffee in popular favour, because of a certain crudity of quality now scientifically overcome by Mr. Sandow's new process.

It is a well-known law that certain food-substances resist all attempts to reduce them to a powder fine enough to become soluble in water.

Sandow's Health and Strength Cocoa is ground and wind-sifted to an extraordinary degree of fineness. This renders it perfectly soluble in water, and also means that the human stomach is now able to digest and assimilate the full nerve-feeling qualities of the cocoa bean.

### THE EXQUISITE FLAVOUR OF THE NEW BREAKFAST AND SUPPER BEVERAGE.

Just as "refining" of impure gold produces fine gold, so does Sandow's super-refining process produce a fine cocoa that affords a revelation of its true flavour which is exquisitely delicate and pleasing to the taste. In comparison with ordinary cocoa, Sandow's Cocoa is in this respect like full cream milk as compared with skim milk.

Instead of the harsh taste of ordinary cocoa, there is in Sandow's Health and Strength Cocoa a creamy softness that is seductively satisfying.

Instead of the somewhat greasy taste of ordinary cocoa, there is in Sandow's Health and Strength Cocoa a tonic "tang" that pleases the palate and so arouses both appetite and digestion.

### HEALTH EFFECT OF MR. SANDOW'S PERFECTED COCOA.

Public and personal appreciations of Mr. Sandow's contribution to the diet of the people are appearing in the Press and pouring through the general post.

All speak of its appetising flavour, as well as of its strength-giving qualities.

Quite a large proportion of the letters acknowledge the benefit derived from the drink-diet health influence of Mr. Sandow's new article of food.

### NOT A SHORT-LIVED STIMULANT.

It is clear from the letters received by Mr. Sandow that his cocoa will prove a boon and a blessing to the more nervously sensitive, those devoted mental workers whose earnestness and ambition too often carry them to the danger brink of nervous exhaustion.

To such the quick stimulus of tea, coffee, alcoholic liquors, and certain drugs are the will-o'-th'-wisps that lead only to deeper depths of nerve depression.

To such Mr. Sandow would earnestly recommend the *sustaining* qualities of his cocoa, for he knows, and has already proved, its value to many such cases among those who consult him about their health.

It is *sustenance* that the nervously depressed need.

The effect of Sandow's Health and Strength Cocoa on the health and powers of the body and mind is surprising to anyone who takes it regularly.

Taken at breakfast, there is none of the depressing reaction of one's spirits as after taking tea or coffee.

Here is a revelation of the secret of how to sustain one's strength at a high-level standard of efficiency.

Grasp its significance and test it for yourself. A 2s. 6d., 1s. 3d. or even a 7½d. tin of Sandow's Health and Strength Cocoa will provide more than a sufficient series of personal breakfast tests.

Then, at night, take a cup of Sandow's Health and Strength Cocoa, and you will enjoy restful sleep.

Thus you are (1) refreshed, and may also (2) sustain your energies throughout the day with another cup at breakfast. Restful rest and sustaining sustenance will be your reward for taking Sandow's Health and Strength Cocoa last thing at night and first thing in the morning.

### IT IS EASY TO MAKE.

To make a breakfast cup take from half a teaspoonful up to a heaped teaspoonful, according to taste, and pour quickly thereon *boiling* water (or milk and water—from one-third milk and two-thirds water up to two-thirds milk and one-third water (as desired). Stir briskly and add sugar to taste. The flavour and aroma are enriched by boiling and smartly whisking or "beating" the beverage immediately before drinking.

If you maintain your standard of health and strength at the "Health Level," you cannot succumb to any of those many ailments that low-level health-power both invites and is unable to resist.

The health perils of Winter are close at hand. Why not, without a day's delay, make personal trial of Sandow's Cocoa as a drink-diet aid to your health and strength?

Order from your Grocer or Stores to-day. If any difficulty, you may order supplies direct and post free on this order coupon.

*Cut along this line*.....J. B.....

### SUPPLY COUPON.

To Mr. EUGEN SANDOW,
5 to 21, New Kent Road, London, S.E.

Being unable to obtain a supply locally, I request you will send me by post (and post free)*.....of Sandow's Health and Strength Cocoa, for which I enclose Postal Order to the value of.....

*Signed* .....

*Full Postal Address*.....

.....

*State quantity required.

For 1-lb. tins send P.O. 2s. 6d.; for ½-lb. send P.O. and stamps 1s. 3d.; for ¼-lb. send P.O. and stamps 7½d.

## "JOHN BULL'S" MONTHLY CALENDAR:

### NOVEMBER.

1. W. *Lotinga's Weekly* published. All Saint's Day. Holiday on the London Stock Exchange, to give the saints attached to that institution the opportunity to celebrate the occasion.—Salmon-fishing with rod and line ends. Salmon fishing out of tins with knives and forks continues.—Fox-hunting begins. Heavy falls in hunting stocks.—Altogether a busy day.
2. TH. JOHN BULL published.—All Souls' Day. All persons who possess a soul, please note.
3. F. Emperor of Japan's birthday. Banzai!
4. S. Mendelssohn died, 1847. Mr. Thomas Beecham fosters his musical genius by playing the Duetto with great feeling.
5. S. Battle of Inkerman fought, 1845. Remarkable recrudescence of crime 'ere—and there. Outbreak of incendiarism by small boys.
6. M. Holborn Viaduct opened, 1369. Holborn bars close at 12.30.
7. TU. *Mrs. Bull* published.
8. W. *Lotinga's Weekly* published.—John Milton died, 1674. Adam and Eve lose the Paradise Stakes.
9. TH. JOHN BULL published.—Lord Mayor's Day. Lord Mayor Crosby, being a doctor, is able to administer first-aid to the City Corporation after the Mayoral Banquet.
10. F. Lord Iveagh born, 1847—a small Guinness with a big head.
11. S. Scottish Quarter Day. Scotsmen settled in England congratulate themselves on their escape.—King of Italy born, 1869. The Sultan of Turkey sends greetings, and a box of Turkish delight.
12. S. Sunday. 'Nuff sed.
13. M. St. Brice's Day. Mr. James Bryce remains in modest seclusion at Washington throughout the day.
14. TU. *Mrs. Bull* published.
15. W. *Lotinga's Weekly* published.
16. TH. JOHN BULL published. Consternation amongst the—well, wait and see.
17. F. St. Hugh's Day. Lord Hugh Cecil, to avoid any misunderstanding, writes a letter to *The Times* stating that he is not the saint in question.
18. S. Clapton Orient score another win.
19. S. W. S. Penley born, 1861. Charley's Aunt (who is still running) protests against her enforced mode of progression.
20. M. Sir Wilfrid Laurier born, 1841. We fear that on this anniversary of his birthday he will feel a particularly bored 'un.
21. TU. *Mrs. Bull* published. Much fluttering in the nest of—well, wait and see.
22. W. *Lotinga's Weekly* published.—Thomas Cook (whose man we would not follow on any account) born, 1808.
23. TH. JOHN BULL published—the paper that millions read because they like it, and a few hundreds because they don't.
24. F. Andrew Carnegie born, 1837. Returns Lord Rosebery's congratulations unopened.
25. S. St. Catherine's Day.—A number of "sparks" fly off the joywheel.
26. S. Bournemouth quiet.—Borough Councillors abstain from Sunday drinking.
27. M. Lost time made up.
28. TU. *Mrs. Bull* published.—Mandalay occupied, 1885. Rudyard Kipling hears the paddles chunking.
29. W. *Lotinga's Weekly* published.—Sir Francis Burnand, born 1836. Refuses to mar the happiness of the day by reading this week's *Punch*.
30. TH. JOHN BULL published.—St. Andrew's Day.—Mr. Winston Churchill's birthday (1874). Happy thought! Why not call it St. Winston's Day?

MRS. BULL.

EVERY TUESDAY. ∴ ONE PENNY.

## ANTICIPATED EPITAPHS.

By W. M

Thys
Magnificente Monumente,
Ye whyche, bee itt noted,
Cofft uppwardes of one million poundes stirlynge,
Was creckted
To ye memorie
Of
**Andrew Carneg'e,**
Ye 20th Centurie Midas
Or
Scottish-American Multi-Millionaire.
Hee was borne,
Anno Domini 1837,
Atte Dunfermline,
Of poore butte honeft parents,
And
Eleven yeares later
Emigrated to ye United States of America.
Hee gotte a jobbe atte Pittfburg
In an umble capacitie,
Butte,
Beynge efflyckted wyth
A double dofe
Of Scottifh acquifitiven fs
An l love of ye bawbee,
Sette hymsel'fe to make monie.
Itt is reported thatte hee started
By borrowynge a Litte;
Anyhow,
After paffynge thirteen yeares in ye employe
Of ye Pennfylvania Railroad Companie,
Hee secured
Bigge interefts in various trufts and combynes
And commenced
To make monie hande over fift,
Eventuallie acquirynge soe much splofh
Thatte hee coulde notte telle to a million or two
The total summe of hys wealthe.
Bee thatte as itt may,
Weighed downe wyth between fortie and fiftie
MILLIONS,
Hee came home,
Built Skibo Caftle,
And started to splafh hys monie aboute.
Oppreffed by ye ufelefinefs
Of too muche wealthe,
Hee determynd to build innumerable
LIBRARIES,
Arguynge wyth hymfelf,
"Iff I tempt ye younge people to reade manie bookis,
They will have ye lefs tyme to spende
In makynge monie,
And will thus be saved from ye miferies
Wyth whyche I am afflyckted."
In addicion
To hys propenfitie for accumulatynge ye dibbs
Hee was a Simplified-Spellynge cranke
And an Univerfal-Peace faddyft.
And notwythftandlyng thatte hee spente
MILLIONS
On thefe several chyldyfh and ridiculous hobbies
Hee,
D inge,
Yette left behynde hym
A stupendous summ,
Though hee hadde declared thatte
"A manne who dyes riche dyes difhonoured."

---

Take comforte, all ye stonie broke
Whoo pafs thys monumente,—
Notte alle ye cafh
Is worth a dafh
When Death is on ye scente:
Bothe riche and poore, hee, ruthlefs, tracks us downe—
When dead, a millionaire's notte worthe a browne!

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

SEE PAGE iii. OF COVER.

# MEDICAL ETIQUETTE

## WHY DOCTORS' NAMES ARE NOT PUBLISHED.

"Patients of mine frequently ask me," said a popular physician the other day, "whether or not a 'testimonial by a doctor,' on behalf of some proprietary article, can be accepted as genuine when the doctor's name is not given.

"To such inquiries I can make but one reply:—the custom of the medical profession frowns upon publishing physicians' names in connection with 'testimonials.' If, therefore, a doctor's testimonial appears without his name, it may be just as authentic as if one saw the letter or heard the physician himself speak:—the standing and reliability of the advertiser are the only guides."

In view of the high reputation enjoyed for twenty-five years by the proprietors of a certain standard preparation, it is interesting to read the following statements made within the past twelve months by prominent, practising British physicians:—

NO EQUAL AFTER INFLUENZA.

"Hall's Wine is a very good tonic; it has prevented many a patient of mine from getting entirely 'run-down,' and as a pick-me-up after influenza it has no equal."

(Interview W. 235—22nd Dec., 1910.)

AFTER TYPHOID AND PNEUMONIA.

"Tonic wines are useful in convalescent conditions generally, but I find their benefit most pronounced in post typhoid and pneumonia. I have always allowed Hall's Wine in these cases, and certainly the results obtained justify its claim and reputation."

(Interview W. 280—14th Dec., 1910.)

STRONG APPRECIATION.

"I have, in my time, tried all the preparations sold as tonic wines that have come under my ken. Most of them are positive rubbish, a few are passable, but there are only three that I allow my patients to take and one alone that I advise—this last is Hall's Wine."

(Interview W. 287—Dec. 23rd, 1910.)

A VERY GOOD FRIEND.

"Hall's Wine is a very good friend of mine. For years I have been a martyr to influenza. I get it in almost any sort of weather, and Hall's Wine has given me a 'leg up' many a time, and enabled me to resume my work after a very short lay up."

(Interview W. 240—17th March, 1911.)

ANOTHER POINT.

"I now never advise anything but Hall's Wine as a tonic in debilitated conditions, and in convalescence it gets people along the up grade much more quickly than anything else I know. Another point in its favour is that I seldom find anyone taking it when they are well."

(Interview W. 273—1st November, 1910.)

NEURASTHENIA.

"I have a neurasthenic case of many years' standing; in fact, it is hopeless. Hall's Wine, taken in doses of two fluid ounces, twice daily, is the only thing which gives the patient any sense of ease and comfort. Besides the immediate restorative action, it has a prolonged sustaining effect, which cannot be obtained by any other means without producing harmful after effects."

(Interview W. 298—15th June, 1911.)

NOW USE IT EXCLUSIVELY.

"I have always approved of the judicious use of a tonic wine. I have had many preparations under my notice from time to time, but have always obtained the best results from Hall's Wine, and now use it exclusively."

(Interview W. 229—10th Nov., 1910.)

NOTHING TO EQUAL IT.

"My first introduction to Hall's Wine was through my predecessor, an old gentleman of 70, who latterly developed cancer. He told me that during his latter years he had found it necessary to take a restorative when going out on his visiting rounds, and found nothing to equal Hall's Wine—in fact, finally used nothing else."

(Interview W. 209—28th April, 1911.)

**The above statements having been voluntarily made to our interviewer, he has made a Sworn Declaration before a Commissioner for Oaths that they are true and accurate statements in all particulars. The interviews have been numbered because of the already-mentioned reasons for the omission of the physicians' names.** [373

Read the doctors' statements in this advertisement. Then get Hall's Wine from your wine merchant, licensed grocer or licenced chemist. Large bottle 3/6

No "Tucks" required —No "Short-Leads" to bother you when you buy "Cutuna." Every Type of Man can be fitted with his correct length of Leg and Sleeve in addition to his Correct Waist and Chest Measure.

CUTUNA
GRADUATED LENGTH
UNDERWEAR

is beautifully soft—cosy to the skin—fine for appearance and for wear—Positively Guaranteed against Shrinkage — the surest fitting and best Value you can get.

VESTS. — Winter weight from 3/6 to 7/11; Medium weight 4/6.

PANTS. — Winter weight from 3/11 to 8/11; Medium weight 5/6.

Write for Cutuna Book No. 18 and Sample of Material.

Horne BROTHERS

Central Establishment and Mail Order Dept.:—388, STRAND, LONDON, W.C. Branches throughout London.

# THE SAVING STAMP CO.

**Head Offices: 47, Old Kent Road, London, S.E.**
**Telephone: Hop. 493.**

## Enterprising Tradesmen

who wish to increase their turnover (now that the times are bad) can do so, very considerably, by giving away 2d. Blue Saving Stamps. They are invited to apply to above firm for particulars. References from shopkeepers who have doubled their turnover by adopting this system are at their disposal

## Thrifty Housewives

who are desirous of obtaining absolutely free beautiful and useful presents, such as Tea, Dinner and Toilet Sets, Clocks, Vases, Watches, Arm and other Chairs, Babies' Push Cars, Sheets, Quilts, Blankets, etc., should make their purchases only in shops which give free a 2d. Blue Stamp for every 2d. spent.

The Saving Stamp Co. have over 100 Showrooms in London and Provinces, where thousands of presents are given away daily, and where the articles presented free can be seen. The addresses of Showrooms and the lists of Tradesmen who give 2d. Blue Stamps can be obtained from **47, Old Kent Road, London, S.E**

## OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER IN GLASGOW.

### A SERIOUS CRISIS—CHIEF CONSTABLE'S OPINION IGNORED—THE WATCH COMMITTEE'S MOMENTOUS DECISION—THE REMEDY.

By Our Provincial Commissioner.

In the Northern city there was recently delivered "in good order and condition" the usual winter supply of police uniforms, which this time happened to be trousers only.

It was discovered, to the horror of the City Fathers, that the rascally contractor had actually substituted metal buttons for bone ones!

Bumble, Tweedledum and Tweedledee forthwith called a meeting of the Sub-Committee of the Watch Committee, which, after mature deliberation, reported that the issue of the trousers in their then condition could not be permitted; also that the Chief Constable was quite wrong in saying that it made little difference whether the appliances used to prevent the force from walking about in a state of indecency were composed of metal or bone so long as they "kept up."

What dire consequences would take place should the dreaded metal discs be the means of communicating an electric shock to the portion of the men's anatomy which cooks are generally supposed to look after so well! Perish the thought! No, they had here a public duty to perform, and the city fathers acquitted themselves like men.

Back to the contractors went the whole lot of demoralising garments, to have the offending buttons removed, and the police have to wait until the error is remedied. As the garments they are wearing are of summer weight and, furthermore, all but worn out, it is quite on the boards that they will be allowed to parade in the national dress, or at least the particular portion of it forming a substitute for that garment which by this ridiculous hair-splitting they are at present without. They *would* look well with their various clan tartans showing under their belts!

No doubt this substitution was considered of very grave moment by the Watch Committee, and worthy of their serious consideration. Perhaps they could find nothing better to do. If this is the case, I should like to call their attention to the meeting of the Glasgow Parish Council on October 2nd, in which grave insinuations were made against the police in respect to child immorality, and at which it was shown conclusively that they had ample powers to deal with the matter, but did not do so. When even Party papers devote large spaces to the report, and head their columns "Glasgow's Shame—City Immorality—Staggering State of Affairs," etc., etc., it seems to me that the Council officials could have been much better employed than in frittering their time away playing "buttons." I have quite recently exposed these horrible degradations, and in consequence brought down upon my head a perfect storm of denial and invective. What have the writers to say now?


## "JOHN BULL" AND THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.

### AN EXPOSURE.

¶ In response to many requests from persons who are interested in the revelations recently made by "John Bull" respecting the Industrial Section of the Prudential Assurance Co., the Articles have been reprinted and are now obtainable in a handy pamphlet form at a nominal price.

PRICE ONE PENNY. Post Free 1½d., from JOHN BULL LIMITED, 93, Long Acre, London. W.C.



# GAINS 2 STONE 10 IN 40 DAYS.

## REMARKABLE RESULTS OF THE NEW TISSUE BUILDER SARGOL, IN MANY CASES OF RUN DOWN MEN AND WOMEN.

## Prove it Yourself by Sending Coupon below for a 2/6 Packet Free.

"My word! I never saw anything like the effects of that new treatment, Sargol, for the building up of weight and lost nerve force. It acted more like a miracle than a medicine," said a well-known gentleman yesterday speaking of the revolution that had taken place in his condition. "I began to think that there was nothing on earth that could make me fat. I tried tonics, digestives, heavy eating, diets, milk, stout, and almost everything else you could think of, but without result.

SARGOL WILL MAKE YOU NICE AND PLUMP.

"I had been thin for years, and began to think it was natural for me to be that way. Finally I read about the remarkable results brought about by the use of Sargol, so I decided to try it myself. Well, when I look at myself in the mirror now, I think it is somebody else. I have put on just 2 stone 10 during the last month, and never felt stronger or more 'nervy' in my life."

Sargol is a powerful inducer of nutrition, increases cell growth, makes perfect assimilation of food, increases the number of blood corpuscles, and as a necessary result builds up muscles and solid, healthy flesh, and rounds out the figure.

For women who can never appear stylish in anything they wear because of their thinness, this remarkable treatment may prove a revelation. It is a beauty-maker as well as a form builder and nerve strengthener. Men increase their nerve power as well as adding many pounds of good healthy flesh.

It will cost you nothing to prove the remarkable effects of this treatment. It is absolutely non-injurious to the most delicate system. The Sargol Company will send to anyone who sends name and address a free 2s. 6d. package of Sargol, with instructions to prove that it does the work. They will also send you their book on "Why You Are Thin" free of charge, giving facts which will probably astonish you. Send coupon below to-day, with your name and address.

### Free Sargol Coupon.

This Coupon entitles any thin person to one 2s. 6d. package of Sargol, the concentrated Flesh Food (provided you have never tried it; and that 3d. is enclosed to cover postage, packing, and so forth). Read our advertisement printed above, then put 3d. in stamps in the letter to-day with this coupon, and the full 2s. 6d. package will be sent you by return of post. Address—

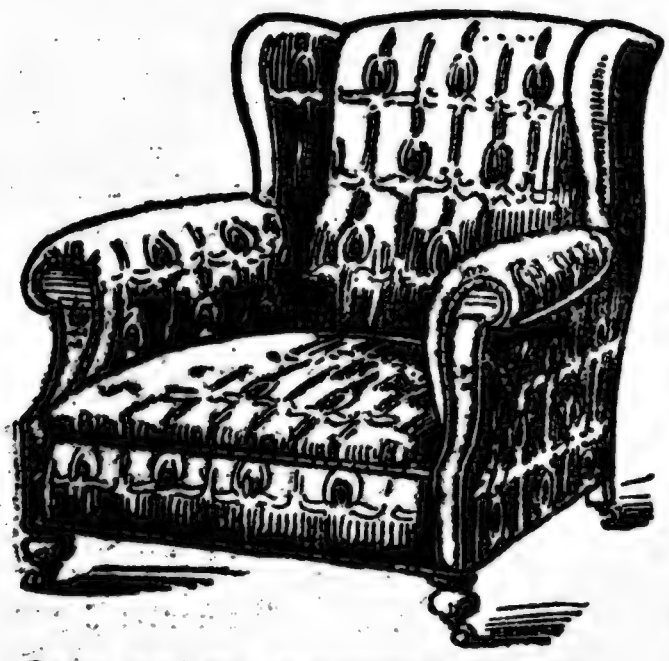
THE SARGOL CO. (Dept. 444). 124, Holborn, London, E.C.



# Watson's No 10 whisky

# HOW TO FURNISH.

**If you contemplate furnishing** or only adding one single piece, write for our New Autumn Catalogue (post free). This Catalogue contains over 2,000 illustrations as well as various schemes for furnishing and decorating. All our Departments are represented, and whether you wish to spend £1 or £1,000 it will greatly assist you in beautifying the home.



Large size well upholstered Easy Chair, covered in any colour art tapestry **£3 3 0**

***This is all spring stuffed.***

Any article we sell may be obtained on our well-known Gradual Payment System, the payments extending over one, two or three years at the option of the purchaser. No deposit is required and we particularly wish to point out that we neither add interest nor make any extra charge whatsoever.

**OUR GENERAL TERMS ARE:**

| Worth. £ | Per Month. £ s. d. | Worth. £ | Per Month. £ s. d. |
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| 20 0 0 | 11 0 | 500 0 0 | 11 5 0 |
| 50 0 0 | 1 8 0 | 1,000 0 0 | 22 10 0 |
| 100 0 0 | 2 5 0 | 2,000 0 0 | 45 0 0 |

**or by other proportionate payments to suit purchaser's convenience.**

Country Customers' fares to Town paid on all orders of £30 and upwards.

**COUNTRY ORDERS PACKED AND DELIVERED FREE.**

## SECOND-HAND DEPARTMENT.

This has again been enlarged and we shall be pleased to forward all particulars on application.

# Midland Furnishing Co., Ltd.

## 15, 17, 19, 21 & 23, Southampton Row,

## HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

Six doors from the Holborn Restaurant and Holborn Station (G.N., P. & B. Rly.), 1 minute from British Museum Station (Central London Railway), and 3 minutes from Oxford Street.

## THE DRAMA OF TO-DAY.

By M. Clement Scott.

### "What Every Woman Knows."

This pretty little love romance, as described by J. M. Barrie, and once more to be seen at the Duke of York's, seems scarcely ripe enough to be called a revival. The playbill announcing the first performance of "What Every Woman Knows" has not a crumple in it yet, there is not a single faded letter on its pages, and no sign of wear tells you that Barrie's play is more than a few evenings old. The sparkling mixture of harmony, discord, melody, and sadness is as entertaining to-day as it was yesterday, and months have but seasoned the beauty of Miss Hilda Trevelyan's acting as "Maggie," the "wee Scotch lassie," who so effectually exercises her gifts of tact, truth and womanliness that the husband is shown up as being a complete failure minus his wife's assistance, so he returns to her a repentant and a wiser man. "Maggie" is not by any manner of means an easy character to tackle; vigorously played, she would make you feel what a sly, designing young person she is at heart, but Miss Trevelyan skates over the ground so adroitly that you are firmly convinced of "Maggie's" naïveté and pathetic innocence. I think I like Mr. C. M. Hallard even better than Mr. Gerald du Maurier as John Shand; he carries more weight with him, and inspires you with the idea that he would be a more difficult man to conquer than Mr. du Maurier. Lady Tree again repeats her highly cultured rendering of the Comtesse de la Brière. Miss Nina Sevening takes the place of Miss Lillah McCarthy, and Mr. Norman Forbes is excellent as Mr. Venables.

I should imagine that "What Every Woman Knows" will last at the Duke of York's Theatre until "Peter Pan" is re-produced there. Mr. J. M. Barrie appears to have been Charles Frohman's most lucky star. By the way, I don't hear very tip-top accounts of this much-appreciated American entrepreneur's health. I am sorry, for there are not many such good fellows knocking about as Charles.

# *JOHN BULL'S*
# CHRISTMAS PRESENT SCHEME.

## Valuable and Seasonable Gifts to our Readers.

Christmas is coming once more, and in accordance with our usual custom, we propose to distribute a large number of presents among our readers, asking them in return to make a special effort to increase further our already gigantic circulation.

The presents will comprise:—

£5 NOTES, POSTAL ORDERS.
WATCHES, CLOCKS.
TRAVELLING AND DRESSING BAGS, WORK BOXES.
BICYCLES, UMBRELLAS.
WALKING STICKS, PIPES.
CIGARS & CIGARETTE CASES.
CASES OF WINES & SPIRITS.
TURKEYS, GEESE, AND PLUM PUDDINGS, CRACKERS.
CUTLERY, GLASS.
GAMES, BOOKS.

**And a variety of other Useful Articles.**

We wish we were in a position to give every reader something, but that being impracticable, the principle of allotment of the prizes will be the selection of the five hundred readers who, between now and December 20th next, in our opinion do the best work to increase our sales. There are many ways in which this can be done without involving any inconvenience or interference with ordinary work or occupations. Readers may pass their copies on to friends; they may buy an extra copy each and forward it to a relative or acquaintance in the country or abroad, with a recommendation of its merits; they may discuss its contents in the office, the workshop, the train and the tram, they may leave copies about wherever they go—in short, there is no limit to the things which may be done to attract attention to us.

All readers have to do is to fill up the coupon below, when their names will be duly registered. Then, at any time up to, but not later than, December 13th, they should send us reports of the efforts they are making on our behalf. Mark all envelopes containing coupons or reports with the word "Christmas" in the top left-hand corner.

**COUPON.—Christmas Present Distribution.**

I have assisted to bring the circulation of John Bull up to *One Million Copies* in the following manner:—

*Here describe what you have done, as shortly as possible.*

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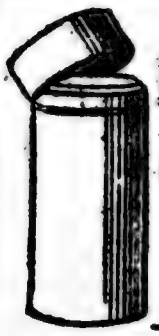
**HERE IS OUR OFFER:** Send 2d. for the comparison size of Williams' Shaving Stick. If 50 comparison shaves don't convince you of its superiority we return your 2d. and all the postage you have used in corresponding with us.

A test which has discovered so much better satisfaction and better comfort for other shavers, must certainly offer better satisfaction and comfort for *you*.



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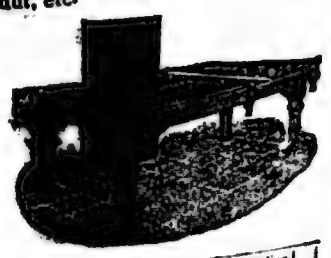

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## BULL'S EYES.

Notes of Interrogation:—
Is the Insurance Bill a "passable" measure?
Will Mr. Balfour follow Lord Halsbury's "Club" lead?
Isn't "Can't be helped" the European view of the Turkish situation?
Isn't "nationalisation" the "Only (Permanent) Way"?
Isn't the Kaiser rather keen on bits of Old China?
Are the Suffragettes now saying "Cheape and nasty"?
Don't farmers *always* suffer from some complaint?
Isn't the Territorial "Force" really a "weakness"?
Is the Road Board too ready to "plank" down?
Doesn't "Electrified Milk" sound rather shocking?

"Lady Windermere's Fan" has been revived. Evidently it is still able to "raise the wind."

An inventor claims to have discovered the secret of perpetual motion. How useful it will be in our Government offices!

"Football Ground as a Theatre," says a heading. But farces have been seen on them before now.

The Rev. R. J. Campbell recently had a flight in an aeroplane. But he has been a sky pilot for many years.

"The Peers' Future Solved. By James Douglas," we read in a contemporary. How relieved the Government must feel.

"I won't have a woman coming into court uncovered," remarked Judge Snagge recently. The bare notion shocks us also.

The King George Stakes were won by Spanish Prince. But he had no Mushroom with them.

If Sandow's cocoa be half as good as he claims, certain other cocoa firms *will* be Quakers.

Mr. Borden is a man of Kent, we are told. No wonder he caught Sir Wilfrid on the hop.

Mr. Marconi has placed all his apparatus in the Mediterranean at Italy's disposal. Marconi assisting macaroni.

Sir Edward Carson has, of course, taken silk. It now seems likely that he will take Ulster.

Ignition won a race recently. The flash at the post prevented a dead-heat.

That convict's dash, at Dartmoor, was soon brought to a full stop.

The new Lord Mayor is a doctor. Just the man to dispense hospitality.

A Parisian University has just awarded prizes to cabmen for proficiency in English. Were any of our old drivers amongst the teachers?

Whisk Broom, which won an unexpected victory at Manchester, apparently made a clean sweep of the opposition.

The headline, "Fireworks at the Durbar," suggests to us that Keir Hardie must be going.

The real snake now playing in "Kismet" at the Garrick Theatre no doubt displays great histrionic powers.

Prudery is disappearing, a contemporary tells us. Merely dropping the "p" we suggest.

Shampoo won a race at Windsor. By a clean head, we suppose.

"Pumpkins on hire for harvest festivals," announces a Croydon greengrocer. But does the Lord love a cheerful *hirer?*

That potato plant at Hitchin, sixteen feet high, is bound to attract spectators.

Perhaps it was natural for the Navy Airship, when ordered to buckle to, to buckle *up*.

"From van boy to partner," we read. *He* evidently knew how to drive a bargain.

The "fisherman's" cap is the latest for ladies. Properly set, it should lead to a catch.

### TO BOOK-LOVERS.

The winter season, which is favourable to reading and self-improvement, is upon us. And, therefore, we refer our readers to our advertising columns that they may consider the excellent opportunity now offered by the Waverley Book Co. of obtaining high-class works by means of what they term "The Waverley Way." Any readers of John Bull who want to know more about these useful and delightful publications are advised to write for free illustrated booklets giving particulars of the easy terms of payment.

For the novel-reader, the works of Fielding and Smollett and the historical romances of Alexandre Dumas suggest vistas of a long winter's enjoyment. For the ambitious young man, the new "Popular Educator" offers sounder educational advantages than have ever before been suggested; while for the busy practical man an Encyclopædia for general reference is a necessity to-day.

Summit 20 is the Lawyer's Collar.

The Collar for the Business or Professional Man. It possesses a certain air of dignity that suggests the man of affairs.

Clothes make the man, you know, and the Collar is a very important index to the kind of man you are. 'Summit' 20 is cut with ample space between the Points, allowing unrestrained neck movement.

Two depths—2 and 2¼ inches.
QUARTER SIZES—four sizes to the inch, from 14 to 18 inches.

6 for 3/-

Made from 'Summit' shrunk materials, they will retain their size, despite the attacks of the laundry.—

Sample Collar and Booklet 6½d Post Free.
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Austin Reed Ltd
113, REGENT ST., W. 13, FENCHURCH ST., E.C.
157, CHEAPSIDE, E.C. 5, ST. MARY AXE, E.C.

NOW is the time to buy a
'WETRESISTA'

The demand is increasing for these Rubberless Raincoats every day.

Before deciding on your Overcoat write to us for patterns of the famous "Wetresista," a smart and dressy tailor-made (not factory made) Coat, which combines all the properties of a mackintosh without the unhealthy effects of Rubber.

It will resist the heaviest downpour, yet always retains its shape—*that's* the feature of the "Wetresista."

Made to your own Measure in all the latest colours and designs for .... 35/-

Unequalled elsewhere at 3 guineas. Write now for patterns and self-measurement forms or send P.O. or Cheque for 35/- and Sample Coat will be forwarded carriage paid, to any part of England, and money returned if not approved. Simply send length of Coat and Colour desired, also chest measurement over vest.

"WETRESISTA" TRADE MARK No 320,421

The "Wetresista" for Ladies, with Plain or Pleated Back 45/-
Single or Double Breasted.

*Obtainable only from the Sole Makers:*

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60, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.
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Telegrams: "WETRESISTA, London." 'Phone: Gerrard, 1393.

## JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[THE EDITOR *replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.*]

*NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when sending cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?*

*CORRESPONDENTS, when referring to previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of* ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag." AND ONLY* THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

*AUTHORS and ARTISTS submitting MSS and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPES ARE SENT FOR THE PURPOSE. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (2 page).*

*The EDITOR cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be sent in the first instance; if inspection of the originals is required, a request will be forwarded to that effect.*

*ANONYMOUS CORRESPONDENCE is increasing steadily. In future, we will disregard any letter which is not duly authenticated, with name and address, which may be given in strict confidence.*

*FORWARDING LETTERS, ETC.—Our correspondence is growing so enormously that we have to discourage all idea of* PUTTING OUR READERS INTO COMMUNICATION WITH ONE ANOTHER. *If the practice grew, we should want an extra staff of clerks, fresh offices, and Jim Crow to keep the peace.*

J. D. (Pontyates) wants to know who is going to edit JOHN BULL *after we are dead?* Perhaps we shall be able to carry it on through Mr. Stead's "Julia."

"AJAX" (Cardiff).—The meaning of our statement is surely clear, namely, that an *Import Duty* on some things would save many Home Industries, whilst an Import Duty on other things would ruin many—in other words, it is a Business proposition.

C. B. G.—CALCUTTA SWEEPSTAKES.—We accept your statement that we are misinformed that tickets for these sweeps can be obtained directly from the Secretary of the Calcutta Turf Club, and that now they are only issued to members of the Club. Thanks.

"BULLETS" (West Green).—As you remark, the Nonconformist Conscience can be better employed than in interference with the freedom of Jack Johnson; to wit, interfering with the pernicious Pigott.

"AYRSHIRE."—Because the *Glasgow Herald* has made a blunder by printing £5 for 5s., or 5s. for £5, it does not follow that it doesn't know the difference. Tell it not in Scotch.

"A YANK."—We have taken careful note of the fact that your opinion of the English is that they are a lot of dirty, hulking, skulking, lot of lying and pestiferous thieves. Guess you had now better get back to your chewing gum.

H. J. says the American Bioscope School advertise that they will teach bioscope operating for £2 2s. and give a situation when proficient. What they in fact say in their advertisement is, "Situations vacant when proficient." That is not to say they have any means of appointing our correspondent to fill one; it is merely an inducement to him to think—what he likes.

H. J. P. (Caerphilly) sends us the *South Wales Echo* containing this advertisement: "Lady, husband away, has furnished or unfurnished rooms to let." *Hanc veniam*, etc.

"STOP AT HOME."—We notice what you say about Messrs. Collings, Rosemont Parade, North Finchley. We can only say that people who rely upon statements made by emigration agents had better stay at home.

"LADY CLERK."—Sorry. If you think that in referring to Mr. Jack Johnson as a "nigger" we intended an offence, we apologise for what we didn't mean. The expression was not opprobrious at all; it was humour down at heels, that's all.

"A STAUNCH LEAGUER."—If, as you state, it is the regular custom on all railways to keep a week's wages of supernumerary porters in hand, we are more convinced than ever that the system is a bad one.

D. H. M. (Richmond).—Thanks for sending us a copy of the *Hamilton* (Canadian) *Spectator* in which there is a report of a speech made by ex-Ald. Tom Allen, who denounced the English as "the scum of the earth, and faggots." The ex-alderman is a gentleman—Canadian brand.

"CONSTANT READER" (Stone) asks if we think there is any danger of the Irish Party putting in a claim for Archdeacon Wilberforce's pebble as being the original piece of shamrock. We give it up.

W. J. (Birmingham) answered an advertisement in the *Daily News* for agents to form *Christmas Clubs*. He was appointed, and secured a number of members. Now he wants to know something about the advertisers, *Messrs. N. and S. Walker* (19, Cannon Street, Manchester), as he cannot find their names in any directory.

Mrs. W. (Manchester) informs us that a man who has been calling himself secretary of the Calcutta Syndicate, advertises tickets in the *Calcutta Sweeps* at £1 each, which would give him the amazing profit of 50 per cent. Later on he wrote his clients that he had been unable to obtain tickets, and proposed to return 13s. 4d. per ticket, keeping the balance for his trouble. Mrs. W., however, has been unable to obtain the return of anything.

T. T. T. suggests that as the *Johnson-Wells fight* is now off, "by way of retaliation a fair-minded man should at once withdraw his children from the *Sunday Schools*, thereby reducing the sphere of usefulness of these canting humbugs to a minimum." Strong language. Would he have Sunday boxing lessons instead?

"RESPICE FINEM" (Leeds).—What the dickens has the suppression of a glove-fight to do with the conversion of the present Queen of Spain to Roman Catholicism? Do go to school and try a course of *elementary logic*.

T. R. J. (London) sends a handbill of a National Sunday League concert, one of the items of which is:—"Recitals . . . Miss Lilian Braithwaite. (The distinguished actress from St. James's Theatre, etc., by permission of St. George Alexander.)" A case of St. James and St. George!

(*Continued on page 626.*)


**REACH OUT FOR A GOOD SALARY**

It is nearer to you than you think. Just a few months of I.C.S. training will enable you to seize it. Thousands of young men in all parts of the country who thought that big wages were far beyond them have proved that the I.C.S. know how to fit men for the best jobs in all occupations. *Get to know the possibilities there are for you.* Write to the International Correspondence Schools and let them show you what you can do. This tells how an I.C.S. training brings higher wages:—

*"I have obtained another situation since I enrolled as a student, and I might also say that I obtained an increase of 70 per cent. on my former salary."*
*(Signed) W. COOPER, Harlesden.*

Take the way which means no evening classes—no interference with present work—no heavy fees—no extras. Terms arranged to your needs, and reference now to I.C.S. students in *your own* district if desired. This Coupon is for Free particulars.

**"The way to Better Pay is the I.C.S. way"**
—over 100,000 I.C.S. students affirm it IS so.

SEND THIS COUPON

**International Correspondence Schools Ltd.**
Dept. 91/K, International Bldgs., Kingsway, London.

Please explain, without any obligation on my part, how I can qualify to enter, or to obtain a larger salary in, the occupation or profession (in the adjoining list) before which I have marked × (or in the one stated here

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**"Black & White" Whisky**

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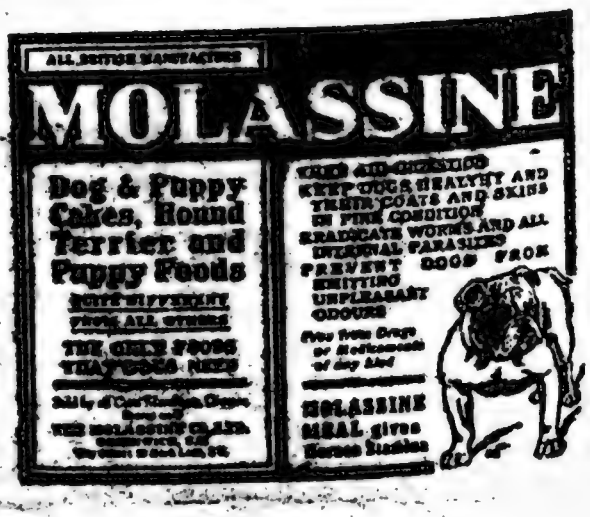
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Dog & Puppy Cakes, Round
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QUITE DIFFERENT FROM ALL OTHERS
THE ONLY FOODS THAT DOGS NEED
KEEP DOGS HEALTHY AND THEIR COATS AND SKINS IN FINE CONDITION
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**SPERMINUM** is the natural source of health and vital strength isolated and purified from organic bases. In the form of the Essence, Spermin acts as a **REVIVER** of **VITAL ENERGY**, and so stimulates healthy body juices, which resist disease and retard vital decline.

**NERVOUS BREAKDOWN, FATIGUE** from **OVERWORK**, and **MENTAL** and **PHYSICAL EXHAUSTION** brought about by **OVER-INDULGENCE** in **ATHLETICS**, will find a corrective in Poehl's Spermin Essence.

It is of **SPECIAL CURATIVE VALUE** in all **DISORDERS** of the **BLOOD**, the **NERVES** and the **HEART**.

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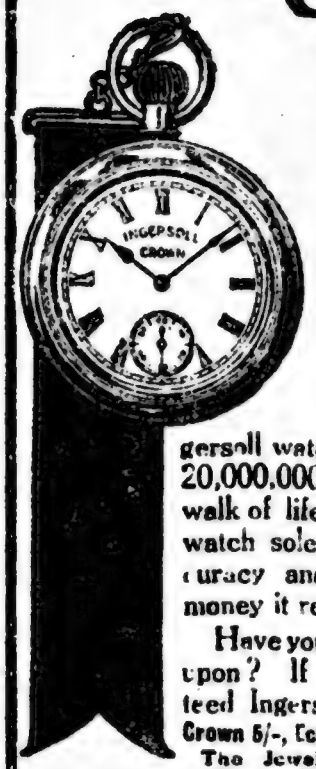
T.H.H

# Ingersoll

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THE wonderful thing about the Ingersoll Watch is *not* its price.

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**Crown 5/-, Eclipse 6/6, Junior 8/6, Midget 8/6**

**The Jewelled Trenton Watch** offers the same security and saving to the buyer in high-grade watches that the Ingersoll does in the low-priced class. They are sold ONLY by Jewellers. Prices from 21/- upwards.

Ingersoll and Trenton Watches are fully guaranteed by the makers. If you cannot obtain a genuine Ingersoll or Trenton locally, do not accept a substitute, but write us for name of nearest dealer. Illustrated Catalogue FREE on request.

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## at ROBINSON & CLEAVER'S.

**Irish Linen Handkerchiefs.**

Ladies' all-linen Hemstitched Handkerchiefs, 2/11 to 12/6 per doz.

Ladies' linen initial Handkerchiefs, any Initial, 6/3 to 13/6 per doz.

Gentlemen's Cambric Handkerchiefs, tape or corded borders, 6/3 to 8/11 per doz.

Gentlemen's Initial Handkerchiefs, pure linen, finely Hemstitched, 8/6 to 18/6 per doz.

**Irish Collars and Shirts.**

"Castle" Collars, linen faced, single shapes, 4/11, double shapes, 6/11 per doz.

"Marchless" shirts, with four-fold fronts and cuffs, for dress or day wear, each 5/11.

*SAMPLES AND ILLUSTRATED LISTS POST FREE.*

**Robinson & Cleaver, Ltd.,**

44, E. Donegall Place,

**London. BELFAST. Liverpool.**

# GRAVES

**IMPERIAL SILVER ENGLISH LEVER**

is British-made, has jewelled escapement, Automatic Chronometer Balance, Breguet Hairspring, and all recent perfections. The Cases are well proportioned, closely fitting, and are heavily wrought from Solid English Hall-marked Silver. Warranted Five Years.

**2/6 WITH ORDER**

**WE SELL/VER** this magnificent English Lever to all approved orders for 2/6 with order, 2/6 on delivery if satisfied, and balance in 10 monthly payments of 4/-. Money refunded if the Watch is not considered entirely satisfactory. 2/- in the £ Discount for Cash.

**CATALOGUE FREE.** Send a Post Card for our handsomely Illustrated Art Catalogue of Ladies' and Gent's Gold and Silver Watches, Lovely Jewellery, and an enormous variety of beautiful and useful goods for presents at economical prices. Ask for Catalogue B

**J. G. GRAVES Ltd. SHEFFIELD.**

# Rexine

## The Modern Furniture Covering.

There is no difference in appearance between Rexine and leather—the grains and colourings are identical, but Rexine wears better since it is scratch and stain proof, and may be easily washed if soiled.

**You can have your furniture re-upholstered in Rexine quite cheaply—the cost of the material being about one-fourth that of leather.**

*Ask your furniture dealer to show you patterns of Rexine to harmonize with the rest of your furniture.*

**In case of difficulty, write**

**The British Leather Cloth Manufacturing Co., Ltd.**

K8 **HYDE, near MANCHESTER.**

T. R. (Alexandria) forwards us a very interesting article on British Trading, from the *Egyptian Gazette*, condemning the *evils of Party Government*. There can be no doubt that we are getting on.

"Sheppeyite" (Sheerness).—Under *a Business Government* the Cabinet would not be subservient to the will and caprice of chance majorities.

H. F. (Oldham) says agencies which profess to find *work on ocean liners* are "all frauds." We know that many of them are.

E. W. F. (Woodford) thinks *our "Chestnuts"* a little too hot. But winter is coming!

"An Exile" (North China) denies that *China* will ever absorb the East. He says: "Chinese business is absolutely corrupt and hopeless, and as for the Chinese Army—help! They are armed with all the obsolete rifles which are cast off as useless by European armies."

E. S. (Peckham) throws doubts upon the *bona-fides* of retailers who have raised the *price of milk*.

T. T. (Northumberland).—Here are the figures for the last three *elections in Hoxton*:—1906, C. maj., 736; 1910 (Jan.), L. maj., 338; 1910 (Dec.), L. maj., 694. We are not yet in a position to form a definite opinion of "Bob's" chances, but he is very hard to beat when he is "out."

B. W. (Whitechurch) thinks the making of *banknotes* ought to be put up to auction, and that no difficulty exists about the manufacture of watermarks. We should be willing to make them free of charge!

J. R. B. (Weymouth).—It is very difficult to say *what reward ought to be given to honest people* who bring back cheques which they find in the street, particularly if the cheques could not have been negotiated. Still, you have the consolation that you behaved very properly.

A. S. (South Lambeth) writes:—"I have been in a good many countries—heathen, half civilised and poor—but I do not think there is a worse place to be down in than London. It is surely no *crime to be poor*." But most people think it is.

H. P. (Toronto) thinks that *parsons ought to return their incomes* as conscience money, "because while acting as shepherds outwardly they are in reality wolves seeking whom they may destroy." That may very well be so, but we can scarcely expect parsons to see it in precisely the same light.

M. B. (London, W.) writes: "We have heard a good deal lately about the future of *aerial torpedoes*. I doubt much whether anything will mature. There is no earthly reason why a fort should not clothe its uppers in torpedo netting as a warship garbs its understandings, which reminds me that we may yet have our battleships perambulating the narrow seas encased like unto a monkey in a net-bag." Why a monkey?

F. R. (Calcutta) says they have *farthing postage stamps* out there. Even that is too much for sending a postcard across the road.

W. C. (Oxford) wants to know if he must have a *licence* for going from house to house photographing and *selling photographs*. We hope so.

A. E. S. (Springfield).—We do not think there is any copyright in *snowball circulars*, but you will only get yourself disliked if you persevere with your scheme.

M. M. W. (Kentish Town) says the Canadians think they won *the Boer War*. We thought it was Bill Adams.

J. T. S (Manchester) considers *the monarchy* of these islands a very expensive ornament and says our "beslavering paragraphs" can only be written with an eye to the Birthday honours list.

L. M. (Camberwell) wants to know how to get into an *engineering* firm *without* paying *a premium*.

"Adsum" says you have to pay 1d. to go on to *Minehead Pier* and 2d. to get off again. We would gladly pay 3d. not to go on at all.

Mrs. T. M. (Oxford) sends us a flattering poem, from which we select the following choice lines:—

There's a grand old man who lives in our Isle,
And he's lived there for centuries full;
And he still will live there a good long while,
For his name is old John Bull.
And he fears no foeman the wide world o'er,
Tho' in scores around him they ramp and roar;
For he'll knock them again as he's knocked them before,
Will this grand old Johnny Bull.

"Common Sense" (Walsham-le-Willows) asks *what England is coming to*, and suggests general decadence.

M. L. (Homerton).—There is no "*comic part*" of our paper. We are always too serious.

P. A. B. (West Kensington) wants a complete list of *Jim Crow's* articles as he is "very keen about reading them." They will really have to be republished in book form, otherwise our friend will have to go to the British Museum and look up our files.

E. H. D. (Bow) sends us a letter of complaint from a *cook* who has been *dismissed* for being too friendly with the housemaid. She vents her grievance against her mistress as follows: "She says she do not keep much company. I don't know what she calls company. 20 to tea; garden party yesterday; Dr. and Mrs. B. to dinner to-night—6 courses. I told her there was not a day won't pass without there was someone to lunch or dinner. I can't get over this, got to leave because Annie and me are friends. Who's doings is it. Annie's sister Edie is jealous because we are friends. Edie has told Mrs. T. everything, also P. I told Mrs. T. wherever I went I should always be friends to Annie, and no one could part us. Ah well every dog has there day. Annies and my fondest love. Oh if I had a sister like that." Evidently a case of platonic affection. She should write to *Mrs. Bull*.

H. C. (Lambeth) is highly indignant about his treatment in respect of *rates*, but as he does not state his case to us, we can scarcely interpose. He seems, however, to have had a high old time in Court.

T. C. (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—We are afraid your suggestion for improving *the Party System* would not work. The fact is, it is past salvation.

*[We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.]*


# A. H. WESTWOOD,

## BASLE, SWITZERLAND.

The only man residing on the Continent who conducts business in his own name, and whose advertisements are accepted by all the leading Sporting Papers.

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Best Odds and £50 FREE COMPETITION each week.

**FOOTBALL TOTALISATOR.**
Clients may predict any combination of matches in the four Leagues.

The following are the Odds returned last week:—

| | |
|---|---|
| 6/1—4 H. | 11/1—5 H., 1 A. |
| 2/1—1 X. | 7/1—3 H., 1 X. |
| 25/1—3 H., 1 A. | 40/1—4 A. |
| 4/1—5 H. | 34/ —2 H., 3 A. |
| 28/1—4 H., 1 A. | 16/1—7 H. |
| 66/1—3 A. | 8/1—2 X. |
| 22/1—2 H., 2 A. | 44/1—1 H., 4 A. |
| 5/1—2 H., 1 X. | 60/1—3 H., 3 A. |
| 40/1—1 H., 3 A. | 20/1—8 H. |
| 23/1—3 H., 2 A. | 28/1—4 H., 3 A. |
| 12/1—6 H. | 98/1—2 H., 5 A. |

(H. signifies Home, A. Away, and X. Draw.)

The Odds will be published weekly in "Lotinga's Weekly" and "John Bull."

**FREE POSTAGE.**

## RACING.

**NO LIMIT.**
Not the Originator, but it held good with the man who founded my business over twenty years ago.—*Verb. sap.*

**SYSTEMS.**
No Commission charged on winnings, and any feasible working undertaken.

**FUTURE EVENTS.**
Paper prices guaranteed.
No deductions whatever.

**£50,000 DOUBLE EVENT Book now open on Cambridgeshire and Manchester November Handicap.**

PERSONAL SUPERVISION TO ALL COMMUNICATIONS.

**Larry Lynx, in "Lotinga's Weekly," 2th October, 1911, says:—**

"The man who employs a larger staff than anyone on the Continent conducting business at both horse-racing and football is "A. H. WESTWOOD, of BASLE, SWITZERLAND, whose business has now been founded for over 20 years. Such facts "surely speak for themselves as to a firm's bona-fides, and Westwood has unquestionably adopted the correct, straightforward "and enterprising methods to create such a huge business."

The "LITTLE BLUE BOOK," which contains my terms of doing business, will be sent post free on receipt of applications, which may be sent by postcards (postage 1d.).

**A. H. WESTWOOD, Basle, Switzerland.**

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TO BE SOLD PRIVATELY BY
The NEWMAN & OXFORD STREET FURNITURE & ANTIQUE DEPOSITORIES (Ltd.),

92, 93, & 94, NEWMAN STREET, OXFORD STREET, W.

The following goods having been removed from Holland Road, Kensington; Glenheim Mansions, Lisson Grove; Summerville Road, Thames Ditton; Maddox Street, W; Goldhurst Terrace, Hampstead; Westhill, St. Leonards-on-Sea; Theobald's Park, and elsewhere, are offered at half the original cost, and comprise, amongst other articles too numerous to mention, the following general household effects. Bedroom furniture—6 oak bedroom suites, from £4 15s.; 3 white enamelled bedroom suites, from £4 4s.; 5 solid oak bedroom suites, with large wardrobe and dressing table, with side cheval glasses, £5 17s. 6d.; walnut bedroom suite, reflex mirrors to dressing table, £8 8s.; an inlaid Sheraton design mahogany bedroom suite, £7 17s. 6d.; a similar suite, £10 15s.; 4 ft. to 6 in. inlaid Sheraton design bedroom suite, oval glass door to wardrobe, 12 guineas; 4 ft. inlaid Sheraton design bedroom suite, with Beaconsfield wardrobe, £15 10s.; 5 ft. mahogany bedroom suite, with 2 oval doors to wardrobe, reflex mirrors to dressing table, 19 guineas; 6 ft. inlaid Sheraton design bedroom suite, fitted drawers and trays, 24 guineas; 6 ft. Louis design mahogany bedroom suite, 28 guineas; 6 ft. walnut bedroom suite, 40 guineas; 7 ft. inlaid Sheraton design bedroom suite, with bow front to wardrobe, 60 guineas; 7 ft. satinwood bedroom suite, 10 guineas; several inlaid chests, from 50s.; 6 ft. walnut wardrobe, 15 guineas; 6 ft. 6 in. mahogany wardrobe, fitted drawers and trays, 12 guineas; several iron bedsteads, from 9s.; black and brass bedsteads, 10s.; full size black and brass bedsteads, with wire springs, 21s.; 9 oak bedsteads, 15s.; pair brass twin bedsteads, 5 guineas; pair white and brass twin bedsteads, 3 guineas; inlaid Sheraton bedstead, including wire spring mattress, £3 15s.; full size all brass bedstead, 60s.; pair mahogany twin bedsteads, £2 19s. 6d.; full size all brass square tube Italian bedstead, 8 guineas, and several others up to 18 guineas. The Living Room furniture comprises fumed oak dining room suite, consisting of large size sideboard, 6 chairs, 2 carving chairs, overmantel, dining table, rug, etc., will accept £13 7s. 6d. the lot; most massive carved oak Elizabethan design dining room set, consisting of sideboard with bevelled plate glass back, oxydised copper fittings, fitted cellarette, 6 massive carved oak chairs, and 2 carving chairs to match, dining table, 16 guineas the set; a similar set, with large sideboard and 2 lounge easy chairs, upholstered in red leather, 25 guineas; magnificent oak dining room suite, £8 15s.; oak suite, in green pegamoid, £3 19s. 6d.; sideboard to match, 4 guineas; overmantel, 30s.; Queen Anne design dining room suite, £5 15s.; sideboard to match, £7 15s.; dining table, £2 15s.; handsome Queen Anne design mahogany dining room set, upholstered in red leather, £7 19s. 6d. dining table to match, 4 guineas; Chippendale design set of chairs, ball and claw feet, exquisite design, 12 guineas; oak, walnut and mahogany sideboards, large variety in stock, from £4 10s. to 40 guineas; about 50 odd dining room chairs; 20 dining tables, from 21s.; oak bureau, 21s.; pedestal writing tables; roll top desks, all sizes; revolving bookcases; a most superb Chesterfield, and 2 large club easy chairs to match in green leather, £15 10s.; mahogany secretaire bookcase, enclosed by 2 glass doors, cupboards under, 8 guineas. The Drawing Room furniture comprises very fine drawing room suite, upholstered in art tapestry, £3 10s.; another design suite, £6 10s.; satinwood finish drawing room suite, 7 guineas; an elegant design Louis XIV. gilt drawing room suite, £19 10s.; another set, similar design, 14 guineas; Chesterfield drawing room suite, with 2 large lounge easy chairs, and 4 solid mahogany chairs, most exquisite design, £12 19s. 6d.; large size double sprung Chesterfield and 2 large easy chairs to match, covered in silk tapestry, 23 guineas; set of Dutch Marquetrie chairs, 14 guineas; handsome design Vernis Marten cabinet, 16 guineas; another, 12 guineas; Buhl cabinet, 11 guineas; another, 14 guineas; table en suite, 8 guineas; Chesterfields, from £3 10s. to 10 guineas; Chippendale design cabinet, £2 19s. 6d.; similar one, £5 15s.; Sheraton design cabinet, £3 15s.; Sheraton design specimen table, 50s.; occasional tables, from 12s. 6d.; occasional chairs, 50 in stock, from 6s. 6d.; 2 white enamel over-mantels, 18s. 6d. and 27s. 6d.; oval gilt table, 10 guineas; pair 9-light candelabra, 6 guineas; 5-light candelabra, 10 guineas; clock in ormolu case, £8 15s.; piano, 8 guineas; an upright piano, iron frame, £12 15s.; ditto, by Carl Strauss, 20 guineas; and several others in stock up to 40 guineas; grand pianos by Steinway, Bechstein, Bluthner, etc. Large stock of carpets, Tapestry, Mirzapore, Turkey, and Oriental carpets and rugs to match, from 18s. 6d.; a large variety of Axminster and Wilton carpets, always in stock, from £2 15s. Hall furniture—Hall stands, from 20s.; hall cupboard, 3 guineas; large quantity of electro-plate, china, cutlery, kitchen utensils, curtains, bed and table linen, etc.

Country buyers should call and inspect these goods. All goods delivered Town or Country free of charge, or can remain stored 12 months free of charge. All goods can be seen where they are now lying for the convenience of sale, any day from 9 till 9, except Saturday, when we close at 7 o'clock, at

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With our fine display of cloth samples in your hands, you can judge for yourself the quality and durability of the materials, and you will be astonished to find how easily you may dress well on a surprisingly small outlay. 2/- in £ Cash Discount.

**J. G. Graves Ltd. Sheffield.**

## SUITS

## RACING NOTES.

By W. Lotinga.

("*Double U. L.*" of Lotinga's Weekly and "*Magpie*" of The Globe.)

**Auction Gossipers.**

Most of the actual active forces to whom the fact matters would bear out the statement that it is almost impossible nowadays to *hear* what auctioneers upon racecourses are saying as regards the prices offered for horses under the hammer. This is partly due to the fact that auctioneers do not speak out loudly enough to reach all sides of a probably big circle, but much more from the incessant gossip that is being carried on by three out of four round the rostrum. Ladies in particular seem to not only go to every auction sale early, so as to "get the best position," but to keep on chattering so as to absolutely drown the bids. It is really no unreasonable measure for executives to compel silence round the sale ring, for those who come to talk might just as well remain at the other end of the paddock.

**Business *v.* Pleasure.**

Meetings like Epsom, Ascot, Goodwood, Doncaster or the "Eclipse" are essentially pleasure gatherings, where even the regulars find it impracticable to do two things—namely, to bet and to escort ladies—at one and the same time. If one requires to pay heed to the market in Tattersall's, to meet people, and see the horses in the paddock, there is absolutely *no* opportunity of considering the Society side. On the other hand, if one desires to combine them, disappointment and failure are assured, so that many a really heavy gambler renounces betting altogether to pay attention to those he is escorting or of whose party he is one.

**Prophetic.**

For the sport's sake it is a pity that Lemberg clearly funked meeting Willonyx in to-day's (Thursday's) Jockey Club Cup, whilst the Cambridgeshire running will have such effect upon many of the other handicaps that it is not safe to anticipate anything. Now that the ground has softened, one of our bogeys of the summer, Bath, will win a minor handicap, whilst Floran's second at Gatwick is quite good enough to pick up the Richmond Nursery if reproduced. The Duke of York Stakes' form ought to come out in the Durham Handicap, as between Succour and Knight of Honour, and The Tower is actually dropped a pound or two in the Queensberry Handicap, so that a very belated success may come at last to the big horse.

At Worcester, Fellah might win his race, and at Alexandra Park, although further than he cares for, round the turns Gala Tweed may not know how far he has to gallop, and therefore finish first before the season ends. Icy Cold, who always runs well here, is nicely in the Hornsey Handicap, but has Baker's Boy to beat.


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STUART'S PLAS-TR-PADS are different from the truss, being medicine applicators made self-adhesive purposely to hold the parts securely in place. No straps, buckle, or springs—cannot slip, so cannot chafe or compress against the pubic bone. The most obstinate cases cured. Thousands have successfully treated themselves at home without hindrance from work. Soft as velvet—easy to apply—inexpensive. Process of recovery is natural, so no further use for truss. Awarded Gold Medal. We prove what we say by sending you Trial of Plapao absolutely FREE. Write name on coupon and mail TO-DAY. Address—STUART P-P CO. (Dept. P), 63, Aldersgate-street, London, E.C.

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**£25 *FREE OFFER* open to all Clients.**

*The "Mirror of Life" for Oct. 22nd says:—*

"Messrs. H. Hamilton & Co. have won for themselves an exceptional reputation for prompt payments, and we have no hesitation in recommending the Firm as a thoroughly reliable one."

Our Football Annual sent free on mentioning this paper.

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*THE SPORTSMAN*, July 14th, 1911, says:—"BERT FRY, one of the best known of the Flushing Turf Accountants, has removed his offices to Basle, Switzerland."

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Special Half-Time Sheet. £50 Free Prize Weekly. Free Postage.

**Absolutely every match in the 4 Leagues to choose from excepting Scottish Queen's Park.**

Send 1d. postcard stating if you require Football or Racing or both

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**BASLE, SWITZERLAND,**

beg to announce that they are offering a

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The Editor of the "*Racing Judge*," Oct. 7th, says:—"A friend tells us that one of the sights of Basle, Switzerland, is the arrival of White, Fisher and Co.'s mail every Sunday."

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Business continued throughout the Winter at all Jumping Meetings on the same Liberal Terms.

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Write to-day for the Illustrated Review Booklet, containing Photographs of my offices, and learn something of the firm with whom you *should* transact your business.

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DAILY SYSTEM WIRES

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The following claim has been received for one issue of September 23rd:—

H. WELCH, 51, Colchester Road, Palmerstown, No. 320340. Sent out 23rd, 1911.

The following are the fifty numbers for one issue of September 30th:—

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 14301 | 186244 | 365686 | 566086 | 738433 |
| 20313 | 211630 | 391940 | 588505 | 745262 |
| 28823 | 219157 | 419153 | 616591 | 759788 |
| 46905 | 227483 | 426454 | 628706 | 765497 |
| 87662 | 244914 | 440770 | 652837 | 773194 |
| 116060 | 250446 | 485436 | 658663 | 813759 |
| 123092 | 269724 | 504435 | 682525 | 826987 |
| 137680 | 317134 | 518276 | 694697 | 843707 |
| 158167 | 326269 | 535965 | 712672 | 845906 |
| 178052 | 333512 | 556494 | 724866 | 847312 |

INITIAL VOUCHERS SHOULD BE DISREGARDED, BUT FINAL ONES ARE, OF COURSE, RECKONED.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR ISSUE DATED NOVEMBER 25TH (PUBLISHED NOVEMBER 23RD).

## The John Bull League.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

The General Secretary,
93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

Please enrol me as a Member and send me a Membership Badge, for which I enclose P.O. for 6d.

*Name*.....

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Mr. Douglas Stuart conducts by far the largest turf accountancy business in the world.—
*Sporting Life*, July 17, 1911.

# DOUGLAS STUART

IS AGAIN OFFERING HIS UNEQUALLED
TERMS FOR THE APPROACHING

# JUMPING SEASON

INCLUDING **NO LIMIT TO WIN OR PLACE PRICES**

When favourite starts "ODDS ON" in every race under National Hunt Rules in the Entire Kingdom.

**NO MEETING BARRED. EVERY HUNT MEETING INCLUDED.**

Difference in Irish time allowed for in Telegrams.

☞ **NO LIMIT TO PLACE PRICES,** even when favourite starts ODDS ON. He will pay 50 to 1 a "PLACE" if returned, even though YOUR Turf Accountant limits YOUR winnings to 2 to 1 on the same race. Examine YOUR book of rules at once; it may mean hundreds of pounds difference to YOU in a season.

☞ **DOUGLAS STUART'S** cheques are "As Good as a Bank Note." They will be cashed on demand, over the counter, at 100 banks all over the Kingdom.

☞ **PRIVACY.** You may transact your business under a "Nom de Plume," and your winning cheques will not bear the name of Douglas Stuart.

☞ **COMMISSIONS** may be wired from the Course up to the actual time of "OFF," irrespective of the set time of the race.

☞ **FUTURE EVENTS** Fullest prices guaranteed as quoted by the "Sportsman."

☞ **RELIABILITY.** What you win you will get. If £100,000, Douglas Stuart has not thought it necessary to state his "Bank Balance," which naturally varies, as he PAYS OUT large sums, but £10,000 paid "on Demand" speaks for itself.

If YOU want both LIBERALITY and SAFETY, open a

# CREDIT ACCOUNT

## AT 102-104, NEW OXFORD STREET, LONDON,

## Or Send Deposit for any amount to Basle to-day

and do your REGULAR DAILY "S.P." BUSINESS with "The Firm Needed on the Continent," of whom "John Bull" said, "You will be safe in the hands of Douglas Stuart."

**SYSTEM SPECIALIST** *WITH NO COMMISSION.* | **FULL MARKET PRICES GUARANTEED.** NO "PRICE UNOBTAINABLE" Circular ever issued.

Note.—ALL Letters respecting Deposit Business MUST be addressed to **BASLE, SWITZERLAND.**

**"DUGGIE'S DAILY," with Latest Market Prices, sent free on request.**

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